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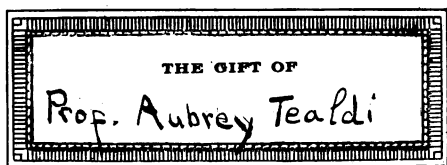
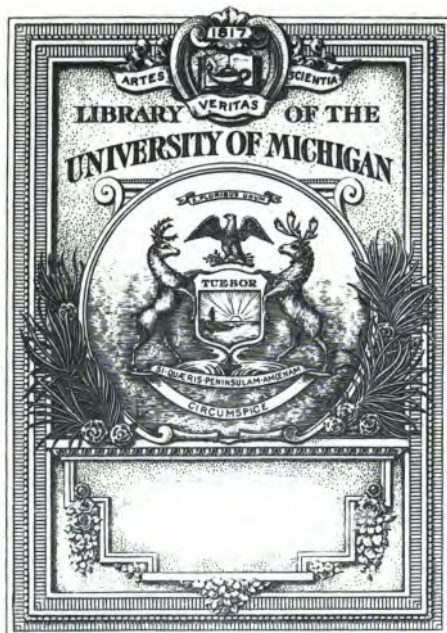
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**Edited by F. J. Furnivall and the late**  
**W. G. Boswell-Stone.**





*Shakespeare, William*

# ALL'S WELL, THAT: ENDS WELL

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# All's Well, that Ends Well

## INTRODUCTION

### DATE

THERE is no external evidence that will enable us to ascertain the date of composition of *All's Well, that Ends Well* within positive limits: in the well-known list of Meres in his *Palladis Tamia* of 1598 there is mention of a play called 'Love's Labour's Won,' and there are passages in *All's Well* which, as well as the general theme of the play, support the conclusion that it is possibly the one referred to. Various critics at different times have tried to identify 'Love's Labour's Won' with the *Taming of the Shrew*, the *Tempest* and *Much Ado about Nothing* respectively: but there are grave objections to each of these, and it is now generally admitted that either 'Love's Labour's Won' has been lost, or that it was the original title of the present play. If the latter alternative is taken, we should be able to assume not only that the play was written before 1598, but also that it followed *Love's Labour's Lost* at no very great interval.

On examining the question by the light of internal evidence fresh difficulties present themselves: for, while in some places there are long passages of rhyme in which the thoughts are of the simplest, and where the characters are allowed to express the most practical ideas by 'three-piled hyperboles,' the majority of the play is written in a style that incontestably proves that Shakespeare composed it at a time when he had left such puerilities far behind him. It has therefore been conjectured with comparative certainty, that the play as we have it represents a remodelling of an earlier one, which was probably treated in a distinctly comedy spirit, and may well have borne the title 'Love's Labour's Won,' and that the rhymed passages are

### *All's Well, that Ends Well.*

remains of this early version which have been retained for dramatic purposes. The similarity of the subject to that of *Measure for Measure*, and the number of parallels that might be drawn from this play with *Julius Caesar* and *Hamlet*, as well as the metrical evidence, the humour, and the prose style favour the supposition that 1602 was the probable date of composition.

#### TEXT

There was no quarto edition of this play, and it first appeared in the Folio edition of 1623. It is one of the worst printed in the volume, and the emendator has had the fullest scope for his powers; and this opportunity has been eagerly taken advantage of.

#### SOURCE

The primary source of *All's Well* is the ninth novel of the third book of Boccaccio's *Decameron*. An English version of this had appeared in Paynter's *Palace of Pleasure*, and to this, no doubt, Shakespeare was directly indebted. The story in Paynter deals with the history of the love of Giletta for the young and handsome Beltramo. She proceeds to Paris and cures the king; and as a reward is allowed choice of husband. Needless to say she selects Beltramo, who immediately deserts her for the wars between Florence and Sienna. He leaves her a letter saying he will not acknowledge her as his wife till she has a son by him and has obtained his ring. She follows him to Florence, and by the help of an honest lady whom he has importuned in love, manages to fulfil both conditions. After the birth of two sons she proceeds to the count's abode, where he is holding a great feast, and is accepted as his beloved wife. This, then, is the crude story which formed the base of *All's Well*. Shakespeare, however, has, as usual, given free play to his invention. Thus the whole of the development of the story is entirely different: in the story the lady simply presents herself to her husband and all is ended, while in the play the catastrophe is brought about by a series of dramatic and moving scenes. Parolles, the clown, and the Countess Lafew are independent

### *Introduction.*

creations of the poet. In the story, in fact, all the characters are mere wax figures.

#### THE CHARACTERS, ETC., OF *ALL'S WELL*

Parolles is a masterly sketch of the affected courtier, vicious in his tastes, and a cowardly braggart with sufficient craft to pass among the more simple of the frequenters of the court as a valiant soldier and a wit. His exposure recalls an incident in Nash's *Jack Wilton*; but the two portraits are so entirely different that it would be absolutely unwarrantable to suggest that either author was indebted to the other. His existence is thoroughly justified by the intrinsic excellence of the conception, but he is also used by Shakespeare to exemplify the fickle and unmaturing judgment of Bertram, and to modify, by the influence that his personality exerts, the responsibility of the hero. Bertram himself, it must be confessed, however, can hardly be defended. Shakespeare insists on his courage and bravery, which is not done in the novel: the influence of Parolles is mentioned by Lafeu, but this trait is not strongly developed. His first speech in the fifth act exerts some small claims on the sympathy of the reader; but this is speedily dispelled by his unmanly conduct in the remainder of the scene.

The king is a perfect little character-sketch: strongly and easily moved both to sympathy and anger, he is, in his own words, 'not a day of season, for thou mayst see a sunshine and a hail in me at once.'

The Countess Lafeu is perhaps the most delightful of all Shakespeare's old ladies; and her presence imbues every scene in which she appears with grace and poetry.

Helena, however, is the crowning beauty of the play. The wonderful spirit with which she sets about her task, first of winning and then of reclaiming her love, makes her one of the most attractive of heroines. The extraordinary interest of the creation lies, perhaps, in the skill with which the author, when putting her in the most trying of situations, has averted anything that might form a blur on the modesty and grace of her personality. Beautiful as the play is from a poetical standpoint, it is when considered from a dramatic point of view, wofully

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

deficient. There is a conspicuous lack of unity about the whole ; the relation of the Countess and Lafeu, striking and charming as the former's characterisation is, to the plot is infinitesimal.

The conclusion, too, is unsatisfactory, for the reader feels that the real problem is only now to begin. These weaknesses, combined with the unpleasantness of the general theme, amply account for the comparative neglect that *All's Well* has suffered among Shakespeare's plays.



[*Not in F.*]

## PERSONS REPRESENTED.

*The References are to First Speeches in each Scene. The Scene in which a Mute appears is given.*

**KING of France**, I.ii.1, p. 11; II.i.1, p. 21; iii.44, p. 30; V.iii.1, p. 79.

**DUKE of Florence**, III.i.1, p. 42; iii.1, p. 47.

**BERTRAM**, Count of Rossillion, I.i.3, p. 5; ii.23, p. 12; II.i.27, p. 22; iii.9, p. 29; v.3, p. 39; III.iii.3, p. 48; vi.6, p. 53; IV.ii.1, p. 61; iii.80, p. 65; V.iii.36, p. 80: as a Mute, III.v. p. 52.

**LAFEW**, an old Lord, I.i.6, p. 5; II.i.60, p. 23; iii.1, p. 29; v.1, p. 39; IV.v.1, p. 73; V.ii.27, p. 78; iii.11, p. 79.

**Captaine PARROLLES**, a cowardly bragging knave, a follower of **BERTRAM**, I.i.100, p. 8; II.i.25, p. 21; iii.7, p. 29; iv.13, p. 38; v.15, p. 40; III.vi.40, p. 54; IV.i.24, p. 58; iii.113, p. 66; V.ii.1, p. 77; iii.237, p. 87: as a Mute, I.ii. p. 12; III.iii. p. 47; v. p. 52.

A Page, I.i.174, p. 10; and a Messenger, IV.iii.72, p. 65: Servants to **BERTRAM**.

**RYNALDO**, a Steward, I.iii.3, p. 13; III.iv.4, p. 48.

**LAUATCH**, a Clowne, 'a shrewd knave and an unhappy', } Servants to the COUN-  
I.iii.12, p. 14; II.ii.3, p. 27; iv.2, p. 38; III.ii.3, p. 43; } TESS of Rossillion.  
IV.v.14, p. 73; V.ii.6, p. 77.

**Lord G. (or DUMAINE)**, a French Lord, afterwards a Captaine in the Florentine armie, I.ii.3, p. 11; II.i.5, p. 21; III.i.4, p. 43; vi.3, p. 53; IV.iii.1, p. 63.

**Lord E.**, his brother, also a Captaine in the Florentine armie, I.ii.15, p. 11; II.i.25, p. 22; III.i.9, p. 43; vi.1, p. 53; IV.i.1, p. 58; iii.2, p. 63.

Both Lords speak at II.i.22, p. 21.

**French E.**, III.ii.44, p. 45; and **French G.**, III.ii.51, p. 45; two French Gentlemen, Envoys to the Court of Florence.

Four young French Lords, 'Noble Batchellors', offered by the **KING** to **HELENAS** 'franke election': 1st Lord, II.iii.75, p. 31; 2nd Lord, 82, p. 31; 4th Lord, 96, p. 32.

The four young French Lords speak at the same time, II.iii.63, p. 31.

A gentle Astringer (called also a Gentleman), V.i.9, p. 76; iii.128, p. 83.

1st Souldier, the Interpreter of 'Choughe language' to **PARROLLES**, IV.i.7, p. 58; iii.111, p. 66; 2nd Souldier, IV.i.89, p. 60.

All Soldiers speak at IV.i.63, p. 59.

**COUNTESS of Rossillion**, mother to **BERTRAM**, I.i.1, p. 5; iii.1, p. 13; II.ii.1, p. 27; III.ii.1, p. 43; iv.1, p. 48; IV.v.7, p. 73; V.iii.4, p. 79.

**HELENA (or HELLEN)**, daughter of the Physician **GERARD de MARBON**, brought up by the **COUNTESS**; in love with **BERTRAM**, I.i.47, p. 6; iii.127, p. 17; II.i.101, p. 24; iii.55, p. 31; iv.1, p. 38; v.54, p. 41; III.ii.45, p. 45; v.32, p. 50; vii.1, p. 56; IV.iv.1, p. 72; V.i.1, p. 76; iii.302, p. 89.

## PERSONS REPRESENTED.

*An old Widdow of Florence*, III.v.1, p. 49; vii.4, p. 56; IV.iv.14, p. 72; V.i.24, p. 77; iii.161, p. 84.

**DIANA**, daughter to the Widdow, 'deriued from the ancient Capillet', III.v.3, p. 49; IV.ii.2, p. 61; iv.28, p. 73; V.iii.157, p. 84: as a Mute, V.i. p. 76.

**MARIANA**, a neighbour and friend of the Widdow, III.v.9, p. 50.

**VIOLENTA**, (?) daughter to **MARIANA**, speaks together with **MARIANA** at III.v.98, p. 53.

**Mutes**: *Diuers yong French Lords, going to the Florentine warre*, II.i. p. 21; *3rd young French Lord, offered to Helena*, II.iii. p. 32. **ANTHONIO** and **ESCALUS**, sons to the Duke of Florence, III.v. p. 52; *Lords, Attendants, Soldiers, Seruants, French and Florentine*.

**The Scenes supposed**. *Rossillion: The Counts palace*, I.i. pp. 5-11; iii. pp. 13-20; II.ii. pp. 27-29; III.ii. pp. 43-47; iv. pp. 48, 49; IV.v. pp. 73-76; V.iii. pp. 79-90. *Paris: The Kings palace*, I.ii. pp. 11-13; II.i. pp. 21-27; iii. pp. 29-37; iv. pp. 38, 39; v. pp. 39-42. *Florence: The Dukes palace*, III.i. pp. 42, 43: *Before the Dukes palace*, III.iii. pp. 47, 48: *Without the walls*, III.v. pp. 49-53: *The Florentine camp*, III.vi. pp. 53-56; IV.iii. pp. 63-72: *Without the camp*, IV.i. pp. 58-60; *The Widdows house*, III.vii. pp. 56, 57; IV.ii. pp. 61-63; iv. pp. 72, 73. *Marseilles: A street*, V.i. pp. 76, 77.

*The Time of the Play<sup>1</sup> covers about three months. 11 Days are represented on the Stage, diuided by 6 Interims. We arrange them thus: Day 1, I.i. pp. 5-11. Interim. Day 2, I.ii.iii. pp. 11-20. Interim. Day 3, II.i.ii. pp. 21-29. Interim of two days.<sup>2</sup> Day 4, II.iii.—v. pp. 29-42. Interim. Day 5, III.i.ii. pp. 42-47. Day 6, III.iii.iv. pp. 47-49. Interim of 'some two months'.<sup>3</sup> Day 7, III.v. pp. 49-53. Day 8, III.vi.vii; IV.i.ii.iii. to I. 78, pp. 53-65. Day 9,<sup>4</sup> IV.iii. from I. 79 to iv. pp. 65-73. Interim. Day 10, IV.v.; V.i. pp. 73-77. Day 11, V.ii.iii. pp. 77-90.*

<sup>1</sup> We follow Mr. P. A. Daniel's Time-Analysis, in the *New Sh. Soc. Trans.*, 1877-79, pp. 169-173.

<sup>2</sup> On Day 3, Helena hopes to cure the King in two days' space. See II.i. 162-169, p. 26. The cure has been effected when the King enters in II.iii. (Day 4).

<sup>3</sup> In IV.iii.46, p. 64 (Day 8) Lord G. says that Helena had fled from Rossillion 'some two months since'.

<sup>4</sup> Cp. IV.iii.28-30, p. 64, and IV.iii.79, p. 65.

## NOTICE

In the Text, black type (Clarendon or *Sans-serif*) is used for all emendations and insertions.

F means the First Folio of 1623. F2, the Second Folio of 1632 (whose emendations are not treated as Shakspeare's).

¶ in the Text, means that the speaker turns and speaks to a fresh person.

Words having now a different stress to the Elizabethan, are generally accented, for the reader's convenience, as 'exile,' &c. When -ed final is pronounst as a separate syllable, the e is printed e.

All's Well, that Ends Well

[From the First Folio of 1623.]



# ALL'S Well, that Ends Well.

*Actus Primus. Scœna Prima.*

*Rossillon. The Counts Palace.*

*Enter yong BERTRAM, Count of Rossillion; his Mother, the Countess of Rossillion; HELENA, and Lord LAFEW, all in blacke.*

*Mother.*

I<sup>N</sup> deliuering my sonne from me, I burie a second husband.

*Rof.* And I, in going, Madam, weep ore my fathers death anew; but I must attend his Maiesties command, to whom I am now in Ward, euermore in subiection.

*Laf.* You shall find of the King a husband, Madame; ¶ you, fir, a father. He that so generally is at all times good, must of necessitie hold his vertue to you, whose worthinesse [8 would stirre it vp where it wanted, rather then lack it where there is such abundance.

*Mo.* What hope is there of his Maiesties amendment? 11

*Laf.* He hath abandon'd his Phisitions, Madam; vnder whose practises he hath persecuted time with hope; and finds no other aduantage in the proceffe, but onely the loofing of 'hope' by 'time.' 15

*Mo.* This yong Gentlewoman had a father, (O, that 'had'! how sad a passage tis!) whose skill was almost as great as his honestie; had it stretch'd so far, would haue made Nature immortall, and Death should haue play for lacke of worke.

---

*Enter . . . Helena, and Lord Lafew] Eneer . . . and Helena, Lord Lafew F.*

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Would, for the Kings sake, hee were liuing! I thinke it would be the death of the Kings diseafe. 21

*Laf.* How call'd you the man you speake of, Madam?

*Mo.* He was famous, sir, in his profession, and it was his great right to be so: *Gerard de Narbon.* 24

*Laf.* He was excellent indeed, Madam! the King very latelie spoke of him admiringly and mourningly: hee was skilfull enough to haue liu'd stil, if knowledge could be set vp against mortallitie. 28

*Rof.* What is it (my good Lord) the King languishes of?

*Laf.* A Fistula, my Lord.

*Rof.* I heard not of it before

*Laf.* I would it were not notorious. ¶ Was this Gentlewoman the Daughter of *Gerard de Narbon*? 33

*Mo.* His sole childe, my Lord; and bequeathed to my ouer looking. I haue those hopes of her good, that her education promises: her dispositions shee inherits, which makes faire [36] gifts fairer; for where an vncleane mind carries vertuous qualities, there commendations go with pittie; they are vertues and traitors too: in her they are the better for their simple- nesse: she deriues her honestie, and atcheeuues her goodnesse. 40

*Lafew.* Your commendations, Madam, get from her, teares.

*Mo.* 'Tis the best brine a Maiden can season her praise in. The remembrance of her father neuer approaches her heart, but the tirrany of her sorrowes takes all liuelihood from [44] her cheeke. ¶ No more of this, *Helena*! go to, no more! least it be rather thought you affect a sorrow then to haue . . .

*Hell.* I doe 'affect a sorrow' indeed; but I haue it too!

*Laf.* Moderate lamentation is the right of the dead; excessiue greefe the enemie to the liuing. 49

*Mo.* If the liuing be enemie to the greefe, the excessse makes it soone mortall.

*Rof.* [*kneeling*] Maddam, I desire your holie wishes! 52

*Laf.* [*as/da*] How vnderstand we that?

*Mo.* Be thou blest *Bertrame*! and succed thy father in manners, as in shape! thy blood and vertue Contend for Empire in thee, and thy goodnesse 56 Share with thy birth-right! Loue all, trust a few,

---

38. *are*] *arc* F.

45. *to*] too F

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Doe wrong to none ; be able for thine enemy,  
 Rather in power then use, and keepe thy friend  
 Vnder thy owne lifes key ; Be checkt for silence, 60  
 But neuer tax'd for speech ! What heauen more wil,  
 That thee may furnish, and my prayers plucke downe,  
 Fall on thy head ! [BER. rises] ¶ Farwell, my Lord !  
 'Tis an vnseason'd Courtier ; good my Lord, 64  
 Aduise him !

*Laf.* He cannot want the best  
 That shall attend his loue.

*Mo.* Heauen blesse him ! Farwell, *Bertram* ! 67

*Ro.* The best wishes that can be forg'd in your thoughts, be  
 seruants to you ! [*Exit Countess. BER. to HEL.*] Be comfort-  
 able to my mother, your Mistris, and make much of her !

*Laf.* Farewell, prettie Lady ! you must hold the credit of  
 your father. [*Exeunt BERTRAM and LAFEW.* 72

*Hell.* O, were that all ! I thinke not on my father ;  
 And these great teares grace his remembrance more  
 Then those I shed for him. What was he like ?  
 I haue forgott him : My imagination 76  
 Carries no fauour in't but *Bertrams* !  
 I am vndone : there is no liuing, none,  
 If *Bertram* be away ! 'Twere all one,  
 That I should loue a bright particuler starre, 80  
 And think to wed it, he is so aboue me !  
 In his bright radiance and colaterall light,  
 Must I be comforted, not in his sphere.  
 Th'ambition in my loue thus plagues it selfe : 84  
 The hind that would be mated by the Lion,  
 Must die for loue. 'Twas prettie, though a plague,  
 To see him euerie houre ; to sit and draw  
 His arch'd browes, his hawking eie, his curles, 88  
 In our hearts table ; heart too capeable  
 Of euerie line and tricke of his sweet fauour :  
 But now he's gone, and my idolatrous fancie  
 Must sanctifie his Reliques !—Who comes heere ? 92  
 One that goes with him : I loue him for his sake ;  
 And yet I know him a notorious Liar,  
 Thinke him a great way foole, folie a coward ;  
 Yet these fixt euils sit so fit in him, 96

*All's Well, that Ends Well*

That they take place, when Vertues steely bones  
Lookes bleake i'th cold wind: withall, full ofte we see  
Cold wisedome waighting on superfluous follie.

99

*Enter PARROLLES.*

*Par.* Saue you, faire Queene!

100

*Hel.* And you, Monarch!

*Par.* No.

*Hel.* And no.

*Par.* Are you meditating on virginitie?

104

*Hel.* I. You haue some staine of fouldier in you: Let mee aske you a question. Man is enimie to virginitie; how may we barracado it against him?

*Par.* Keepe him out!

108

*Hel.* But he assailes; and our virginitie, though valiant, in the defence yet is weak: vnfold to vs some warlike resistance!

111

*Par.* There is none: Man, setting downe before you, will vndermine you, and blow you vp.

*Hel.* Blesse our poore Virginitie from vnderminers and blowers-vp! Is there no Military policy, how Virgins might blow vp men?

116

*Par.* Virginitie beeing blowne downe, Man will quicker be blowne vp: marry, in blowing him downe againe, with the breach your selues made, you lose your City. It is not politicke, in the Common-wealth of Nature, to preferue [120] virginity. Losse of Virginitie, is rationall encrease; and there was neuer Virgin got, till virginitie was first lost. That you were made of, is mettall to make Virgins. Virginitie, by beeing once lost, may be ten times found; by being euer [124] kept, it is euer lost: 'tis too cold a companion; Away with't!

*Hel.* I will stand for't a little, though therefore I die a Virgin.

127

*Par.* There's little can bee faide in't; 'tis against the rule of Nature. To speake on the part of virginitie, is to accuse your Mothers; which is most infallible disobedience! He that hangs himselfe is<sup>1</sup> a Virgin: Virginitie murders it selfe; [131] and should be buried in highwayes, out of all sanctified limit,

99. *Enter . . .*] F (after l. 92).

122. *got*] F2. *goe* F.

<sup>1</sup> *is* = *is as*.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

as a desperate Offendresse againſt Nature. Virginitie breeds mites, much like a Cheefe; confumes it ſelfe to the very paying, and ſo dies with feeding his owne ſtomacke. [135] Beſides, Virginitie is peeuiſh, proud, ydle, made of ſelfe-loue, which is the moſt inhibited finne in the Cannon. Keepe it not! you cannot chooſe but looſe by't: Out with't! within the yeare it will make it ſelfe two, which is a goodly increaſe; [139] and the principall it ſelfe not much the worſe. Away with't!

*Hel.* How might one do, ſir, to looſe it to her owne liking?

*Par.* Let mee ſee: Marry, ill, to like him that ne're it likes! 'Tis a commodity will loſe the głoſſe with lying; The [143] longer kept, the leſſe worth: Off with't while 'tis vendible! Anſwer the time of requeſt! Virginitie, like an olde Courtier, weares her cap out of faſhion; richly ſuted, but vnſuteable: iuſt like the brooch & the toothpick, which were<sup>1</sup> not now. [147] Your Date is better in your Pye and your Porridge then in your cheek: and your virginity, your old virginity, is like one of our *French* wither'd peares; it lookes ill, it eates drily; marry, 'tis a wither'd peare; it was formerly better; [151] marry, yet 'tis a wither'd peare! Will you any thing with it?

*Hel.* Not my virginity yet!<sup>2</sup>

There ſhall your Maſter haue a thouſand loues,  
A Mother, and a Miſtreſſe, and a friend, 155  
A Phenix, Captaine, and an enemy,  
A guide, a Goddeſſe, and a Souëraigne,  
A Counſellor, a Traitoreſſe, and a Deare!  
His humble ambition, proud humility; 159  
His iarring concord, and his diſcord dulcet;  
His faith, his ſweet diſaſter: with a world  
Of pretty, fond, adoptious chriſtendomes,  
That blinking *Cupid* goſſips! Now ſhall he . . . 163  
I know not what he ſhall. God ſend him well!  
The Courts a learning place, and he is one . . .

*Par.* What 'one,' ifaith?

*Hel.* That I wiſh well. 'Tis pitty . . .

*Par.* What's 'pitty?' 167

138. *the*] B. Nicholson. ten F.

<sup>1</sup> *were* = wear, are worn.

<sup>2</sup> Hanmer inserted *You're for the Court* after *yet*. But the diſcon-

tinuity in the text better marks *Hel.*'s abrupt outburst as to *Bertram*, of whom her heart and mind have all along been full.

# *All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Hel.* That wishing well had not a body in't,  
Which might be felt; that we, the poorer borne,  
Whose baser starres do shut vs vp in wishes,  
Might vwith effects of them follow our friends, 171  
And shew what vve alone must thinke; which neuer  
Returnes vs thankes. 173

*Enter Page.*

*Pag.* Monsieur *Parrolles*, my Lord calls for you! [*Exit.*  
*Par.* Little *Hellen*, farewell! if I can remember thee, I  
will thinke of thee at Court.

*Hel.* Monsieur *Parolles*, you were borne vnder a charitable  
starre! 178

*Par.* Vnder *Mars*, I!

*Hel.* I especially thinke, 'vnder *Mars*.'

*Par.* Why 'vnder *Mars*?' 181

*Hel.* The warres hath so kept you 'vnder,' that you must  
needes be borne 'vnder *Mars*.'

*Par.* When he was predominant!

*Hel.* When he was retrograde, I thinke, rather. 185

*Par.* Why thinke you so?

*Hel.* You go so much backward when you fight.

*Par.* That's for aduantage. 188

*Hel.* So is running away, when feare proposes the safetie:  
but the composition, that your valour and feare makes in you,  
is a vertue of a good wing, and I like the weare well. 191

*Paroll.* I am so full of businesse, I cannot answere thee  
acutely. I will returne perfect Courtier; in the which, my in-  
struction shall serue to naturalize thee, so thou wilt be capeable  
of a Courtiers councell, and vnderstand what aduice shall [195  
thrust vppon thee; else thou diest in thine vnthankfulness,  
and thine ignorance makes thee away: farewell! When thou  
hast leysure, say thy praiers; when thou hast none, remember  
thy Friends! Get thee a good husband, and vse him as he  
vses thee! So, farewell! [*Exit.* 200

*Hel.* Our remedies oft in our selues do lye,  
Which we ascribe to heauen: the fated skye 202

Gives vs free scope; onely doth backward pull  
Our slow designes, when we our selues are dull. 204

What power is it, which mounts my loue so hye;

I. i. 168-205.]

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

That makes me fee, and cannot feede mine eye ?	206
The mightiest space in Fortune, Nature brings	
To ioyne like likes, and kisse like natue things.	208
Impossible be strange attempts to those	
That weigh their paines in fence ; and do suppose	210
What hath beene, cannot be. Who euer stroue	
To shew her merit, that did misse her loue ?——	212
The Kings diseafe . . . My proiect may deceiue me,	
But my intents are fixt, and will not leaue me. [ <i>Exit.</i>	214

*Actus Primus. Scena Secunda.*

*Paris. The KINGs Palace.*

*Flourish Cornets. Enter the King of France supported, with  
Letters : Lords and diuers Attendants.*

*King.* The *Florentines* and *Senoy*s are by th'eares ;  
Haue fought with equall fortune, and continue  
A brauing warre.

1. *Lo. G. (the elder Dumaine)* <sup>1</sup> So tis reported, fir.

*King.* Nay, tis most credible ; we heere receiue it  
A certaintie, vouch'd from our Cofin *Auftria*,  
With caution, that the *Florentine* will moue vs  
For speedie ayde ; wherein our deereft friend  
Preiudicates the bufineffe, and would seeme  
To haue vs make deniall.

1. *Lo. G.* His loue and wifedome.  
Approu'd fo to your Maiefty, may pleade  
For ampleft credence.

*King.* He hath arm'd our answer,  
And *Florence* is deni'de before he comes :  
Yet, for our Gentlemen that meane to see  
The *Tuscan* seruice, freely haue they leaue  
To stand on either part.

2. *Lo. E. (the younger Dumaine)* It well may serue  
A nurserie to our Gentry, who are ficke  
For breathing, and exploit.

*King.* What's he comes heere.

---

<sup>1</sup> See note at end of play.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Enter BERTRAM, LAFEW, and PAROLLES.*

1. *Lor. G.* It is the Count *Rosignoll*, my good Lord,  
Yong *Bertram*.

*King.* Youth, thou bear'st thy Fathers face;  
Franke Nature, rather curious then in haſt, 20  
Hath well compos'd thee. Thy Fathers morall parts,  
Maiſt thou inherit too! Welcome to *Paris*!

*Ber.* My thanks and dutie are your Maieſties.

*Kin.* I would I had that corporall ſoundneſſe now, 24

As when thy father and my ſelfe, in friendſhip,  
Firſt tride our ſouldierſhip! He did looke farre  
Into the ſeruice of the time, and was  
Diſcipl'd of the braueſt: He laſted long; 28

But on vs both did haggish Age ſteale on,  
And wore vs out of act. It much repaires me  
To talke of your good father. In his youth  
He had the wit, which I can well obſerue 32

To day in our yong Lords; (but they may leſt  
Till their owne ſcorne returne to them vnnoted,  
Ere they can hide their leuitie in honour,  
So like a Courtier;) contempt nor bitterneſſe 36

Were in his pride, or ſharpneſſe; if they were,  
His equall had awak'd them; and his honour  
(CLOCKE to it ſelfe) knew the true minute when  
Exception bid him ſpeake, and at this time 40

His tongue obey'd his hand: Who were below him,  
He vs'd as creatures of another place;  
And bow'd his eminent top to their low rankes,  
Making them proud of his humilitie, 44

In their poore praife he humbled. Such a man  
Might be a copie to theſe yonger times;  
Which, followed well, would démonſtrate them now  
But goers backward.

*Ber.* His good remembrance, ſir, 48  
Lies richer in your thoughts, then on his tombe;  
So in approofe liues not his Epitaph,  
As in your royall ſpeech.

*King.* Would I were with him! He would alwaies ſay: 52

43. *And*] Aud (turned n) F.

I. ii. 18-52.]

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

(Me thinks I heare him now; his plaufiue words  
He fcatcer'd not in eares, but grafted them,  
To grow there and to beare :) 'Let me not liue,'  
(This his good melancholly oft began, 56  
On the Cataftrophe and heele of paftime,  
When it was out,) 'Let me not liue' (quoth hee)  
'After my flame lackes oyle, to be the fnuiffe  
Of yonger fpirits, whofe apprehenfiue fenfes, 60  
All but new things difdaine; whofe iudgements are  
Meere fathers of their garments; whofe conftancies  
Expire before their fashions!' This he wifh'd:  
I, after him, do after him with too, 64  
(Since I, nor wax nor honie can bring home,)  
I quickly were diffoluëd from my hiue,  
To giue fome Labouers roome.  
L. 2. E. You'r louëd, Sir,  
They, that leaft lend it you, fhall lacke you firft. 68  
Kin. I fill a place, I know't. ¶ How long ift, Count,  
Since the Phyfitian at your fathers died?  
He was much fam'd.  
Ber. Some fix moneths fince, my Lord.  
Kin. If he were liuing, I would try him yet; 72 [out  
([To Attendants.] Lend me an arme!) the reft haue worne me  
With feuerall applications: Nature and fickneffe  
Debate it at their leifure. Welcome, Count!  
My fonne's no deerer.  
Ber. Thanke your Maiefty! 76  
[E eunt. Flourifh.]

*Actus Primus. Scena Tertia.*

*Rossillon. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Counteffe, Steward (RYNALDO), and Clowne  
(LAUATCH) behind.*

Coun. I will now heare: What fay you of this gentle-  
woman? 2

Ste. Maddam, the care I haue had to euen your content, I  
wifh might be found in the Kalender of my paff endeouours;

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76. *Exeunt.*] Exit. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

for then we wound our Modestie, and make foule the clear-  
nesse of our deseruings, when of our selues we publish them. 6

*Coun.* [*seeing Clo.*] What doe's this knaue heere? ¶ Get  
you gone, firra! the complaints I haue heard of you, I do not  
all beleue: 'tis my slownesse that I doe not; for I know you  
lacke not folly to commit them, & haue abilitie enough to  
make such knaueries yours. 11

*Clo.* 'Tis not vnknown to you, Madam, I am a poore  
fellow.

*Coun.* Well, fir!

14

*Clo.* No, maddam! 'tis not so 'well' that I am poore;  
though manie of the rich are damn'd: but, if I may haue  
your Ladifships good will to 'goe to the world,' *Isbell* the  
woman and I will doe as we may. 18

*Coun.* Wilt thou needes be a begger?

*Clo.* I doe beg your good will in this cafe.

*Cou.* In what cafe?

21

*Clo.* In *Isbels* cafe and mine owne. 'Seruice is no heri-  
tage:' and I thinke I shall neuer haue the blessing of God,  
till I haue issue a my bodie; for they say, 'barnes are  
blessings.' 25

*Cou.* Tell me thy reason why thou wilt marrie?

*Clo.* My poore bodie, Madam, requires it: I am driuen  
on by the flesh; and 'hee must needes goe, that the diuell  
driues.' 29

*Cou.* Is this all your worships reason?

*Clo.* Faith, Madam, I haue other holie reasons, such as  
they are.

*Cou.* May the world know them?

33

*Clo.* I haue beene, Madam, a wicked creature, (as you and  
all flesh and blood are;) and, indeede, I doe marrie that I may  
repent.

*Cou.* Thy marriage, sooner then thy wickednesse!

37

*Clo.* I am out a friends, Madam; and I hope to haue  
friends for my wiues sake.

*Cou.* Such friends are thine enemies, knaue!

40

*Clo.* Y'are shallow, Madam, in great friends; for the  
knaues come to doe that for me which I am a wearie of. He,

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

that eres my Land, spares my teame, and giues mee leaue to  
Inne the crop; if I be his cuckold, hee's my drudge: he [44  
that comforts my wife, is the cherisher of my flesh and blood;  
hee that cherishes my flesh and blood, loues my flesh and  
blood; he that loues my flesh and blood, is my friend: *ergo*,  
he that kisses my wife is my friend. If men could be [48  
contented to be what they are, there were no feare in marriage;  
for yong *Charbon* the Puritan, and old *Poyssam* the Papist, how-  
somere their hearts are feuer'd in Religion, their heads are  
both one; they may ioule horns together like any Deare i'th  
Herd. 53

*Cou.* Wilt thou euer be a foule-mouth'd and calumnious  
knane?

*Clo.* A Prophet, I, Madam; and I speake the truth the  
next waie: 57

*For I the Ballad will repeate,  
Which men full true shall finde,  
Your marriage comes by destinie,  
Your Cuckow sings by kinde.* 61

*Cou.* Get you gone, fir! Ile talke with you more anon.

*Stew.* May it please you, Madam, that hee bid *Hellen* come  
to you: of her I am to speake.

*Cou.* Sirra! tell my gentlewoman I would speake with her;  
*Hellen*, I meane. 66

*Clo.* [*sings*] '*Was this faire face the cause,*' quoth *she*,  
'*Why the Grecians sack'd Troy?*  
*Fond done, done fond,*  
*Was this King Priams ioy?*' 70  
*With that she sigh'd as she stood,* [*bis.*  
*And gaue this sentence then:*  
'*Among nine bad, if one be good,*  
*Among nine bad, if one be good,*  
*There's yet one good in ten.*' 75

*Cou.* What, 'one good in tenne'? you corrupt the song,  
firra! 77

*Clo.* One good woman in ten, Madam; which is a purify-  
ing ath'long: would God would serue the world so all the  
yeere! wee'd finde no fault with the tithe woman if I were

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

the Parfon. 'One in ten,' quoth a! And wee might [81  
haue a good woman borne but ore<sup>1</sup> euerie blazing starre, or  
at an earthquake, 'twould mend the Lotterie well: a man may  
draw his heart out ere a plucke one. 84

*Cou.* Youle begone, fir knaue, and doe as I command you!

*Clo.* That man should be at womans command, and yet no  
hurt done! (Though honestie be no Puritan, yet it will doe  
no hurt; it will weare the Surplis of humilitie ouer the [88  
Blacke-Gowne of a bigge heart.) [*Cou. menaces him.*] I am  
going, forsooth: the businesse is for *Helen* to come hither. [*Exit.*

*Cou.* Well, now

*Stew.* I know, Madam, you loue your Gentlewoman  
intirely. 93

*Cou.* Faith, I doe: her Father bequeath'd her to mee; and  
she her selfe, without other aduantage, may lawfullie make  
title to as much loue as shee findes: there is more owing her  
then is paid; and more shall be paid her then sheele demand. 97

*Stew.* Madam, I was (verie late) more neere her then I  
thinke shee wisht mee: alone shee was, and did communicate  
to her selfe her owne words to her owne eares; shee thought  
(I dare vowe for her) they toucht not anie stranger sence. [101  
Her matter was, shee loued your Sonne: Fortune, shee said,  
was no goddesse, that had put such difference betwixt her  
two estates; Loue no god, that would not extend his might,  
onelie where qualities were leuell; *Diana* no Queene of [105  
Virgins, that would suffer her poore Knight surpris'd, without  
rescue in the first assault or ranfome afterward! This shee  
deliuer'd in the most bitter touch of sorrow that ere I heard  
Virgin exclaime in: which I held my dutie speedily to [109  
acquaint you withall; fithence, in the losse that may happen,  
it concernes you something to know it. 111

*Cou.* You haue discharg'd this honestlie; keepe it to your  
selfe! manie likelihoods inform'd mee of this before, which  
hung so tottring in the ballance, that I could neither beleuee  
nor misdoubt. Praie you, leaue mee: stall this in your [115  
bosome; and I thanke you for your honest care! I will  
speake with you further anon. [*Exit Steward.*

*Old. Cou.* Euen so it vvas vvith me when I was yong: 118

<sup>1</sup> ?ore = or, before · or = over.

105. *Diana* no] Theobald.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

If euer vve are Natures, these are ours; this thorne  
Doth to our Rose of youth rightlie belong;

Our blood to vs, this to our blood, is borne; 121  
It is the shew, and seale of Natures truth,  
Where Loues strong passion is imprest in youth: 123  
By our remembrances of daies forgon,  
Such were our faults,—or then we thought them none. 125

*Enter HELLEN.*

Her eie is sicke on't: I obserue her now.

*Hell.* What is your pleasure, Madam?

*Ol. Cou.*

You know, *Hellen*,

I am a mother to you.

[*HELL. starts.*

*Hell.* Mine honorable Mistris!

*Ol. Cou.*

Nay, a mother: 129

Why not a mother? When I fed, 'a mother,'

Me thought you saw a serpent: what's in 'mother,'

That you start at it? I say, I am your 'mother';

And put you in the Catalogue of those 133

That were enwomb'd mine: 'tis often seene,

Adoption striues vvith Nature; and choise breeds

A natue slip to vs from forraine feedes: 136

You nere opprest me with a mothers groane,

Yet I expresse to you a mothers care!—

(Gods mercie, maiden!) dos it curd thy blood

To say, I am thy 'mother'? What's the matter, 140

That this distempered messenger of wet,

The manie colour'd *Iris*, rounds thine eye?

—Why, that you are my daughter?

*Hell.*

That I am not

*Old. Cou.* I say, I am your Mother!

*Hell.*

Pardon, Madam!

The Count *Rosillion* cannot be my brother:

145

I am from humble, he from honored name;

No note vpon my Parents, his all noble:

My Master, my deere Lord he is; and I

His seruant liue, and will his vassall die!

149

He must not be my brother!

120. *rightlie*] *rightlie* F.

125. *Enter Hellen.*] F (after l. 117).

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ol. Cou.* Nor I your Mother?

*Hell.* You are my mother, Madam; would you were  
(So that my Lord, your sonne, were not my brother)  
Indeede my 'mother'! or were you both our mothers, 153  
I care no more for, then I doe for heauen,  
So I were not his sifter! Can't no other,  
But I your daughter, he must be my 'brother' 156

*Old. Cou.* Yes, *Hellen*, you might be my daughter in law:  
God shiield you meane it not! 'daughter' and 'mother'  
So striue vpon your pulse. What, pale agen?  
My feare hath catcht your fondnesse! now I see 160  
The mistrie of your lonelinessse! and finde  
Your salt teares head! now to all sence 'tis grosse,  
You loue my sonne! inuention is asham'd,  
Against the proclamation of thy passion, 164  
To say thou doost not: therefore tell me true;  
But tell me then, 'tis so! for, looke, thy cheekes  
Confesse it, 'ton to th'other; and thine eies  
See it so grosely showne in thy behauiours, 168  
That in their kinde they speake it: onely sinne  
And hellish obstinacie tye thy tongue,  
That truth should be suspected! Speake! ift so?  
If it be so, you haue wound a goodly clewe; 172  
If it be not, forswear't! how ere I charge thee,  
As heauen shall worke in me for thine auaille,  
To tell me truelie!

*Hell.* Good Madam, pardon me!

*Cou.* Do you loue my Sonne?

*Hell.* Your pardon, noble Mistris! 176

*Cou.* Loue you my Sonne?

*Hell.* Doe not you 'loue' him, Madam?

*Cou.* Goe not about! my loue hath in't a bond,  
Whereof the world takes note: Come, come! disclose  
The state of your affection! for your passions 180  
Haue to the full appeach'd.

*Hell.* Then, I confesse,  
Here on my knee, before high heauen and you,

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161. *lonelinessse*] Theobald. loue-  
linessse (turned n) F.  
I. iii. 150-182.]

167. 'ton to th'other'] 'ton tooth to  
th'other F.  
18

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

<p>That before you, and next vnto high heauen,          I loue your Sonne!</p>	184
<p>My friends were poore, but honest; fo's my loue:          Be not offended! for it hurts not him,          That he is lou'd of me: I follow him not          By any token of presumptuous suite;</p>	188
<p>Nor would I haue him till I doe deserue him;          Yet neuer know how that desert should be!          I know I loue in vaine, striue against hope;          Yet, in this captious, and intenable Siue,</p>	192
<p>I still poure in the waters of my loue,          And lacke not to loose still: thus, <i>Indian-like</i>,          Religious in mine error, I adore          The Sunne, that lookes vpon his worhipper,</p>	196
<p>But knowes of him no more. My deereft Madam,          Let not your hate incounter with my loue,          For louing where you doe; but, if your selfe,          Whose aged honor cites a vertuous youth,</p>	200
<p>Did euer, in so true a flame of liking,          With chafly, and loue dearly, that your <i>Dian</i>          Was both her selfe and Loue, O, then, giue pittie          To her, whose state is such, that cannot choose</p>	203
<p>But lend and giue where she is sure to loose;          That seekes not to finde that her searck implies,          But, riddle like, liues sweetely where she dies!</p>	207
<p><i>Cou.</i> Had you not lately an intent, (speake truely!)</p>	
<p>To goe to <i>Paris</i>?</p>	
<p><i>Hell.</i></p>	<p>Madam, I had.</p>
<p><i>Cou.</i> Wherefore? tell true!</p>	
<p><i>Hell.</i> I will tell truth; by Grace it selfe, I sweare!</p>	
<p>You know my Father left me some prescriptions          Of rare and prou'd effects, such as his reading,          And manifest experience, had collected          For generall soueraigntie; and that he wil'd me          In heedefull't reseruation to bestow them,</p>	211
<p>As notes, whose faculties inclsuue were,          More then they were in note: Amongst the rest,          There is a remedie, approu'd, set downe,</p>	215

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192. *intenable*] F2. intemible F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

To cure the desperate languishings whereof 219  
The King is render'd loft.

*Cou.* This was your motiue  
For *Paris*, was it? speake!

*Hell.* My Lord, your sonne, made me to think of this;  
Else *Paris*, and the medicine, and the King, 223  
Had, from the conuerfation of my thoughts,  
Happily<sup>1</sup> beene abſent then.

*Cou.* But thinke you, *Hellen*,  
If you ſhould tender your ſuppoſed aide,  
He would receiue it? He and his Phifitions 227  
Are of a<sup>2</sup> minde; he, that they cannot helpe him;  
They, that they cannot helpe: how ſhall they credit  
A poore vnlearned Virgin, when the Schooles  
(Embowel'd of their doctrine) haue left off 231  
The danger to it ſelfe?

*Hell.* There's ſomething in't  
More then my Fathers ſkill, (which was the great't  
Of his profeſſion,) that his good receipt  
Shall, for my legacie, be ſanctified 235  
Byth'luckieſt ſtars in heauen: and, would your honor  
But giue me leaue to trie ſucceſſe, I'de venture  
The well-loſt life of mine on his Graces cure,  
By ſuch a day, and houre.

*Cou.* Doo'ſt thou beleeeue't? 239

*Hell.* I, Madam, knowingly.

*Cou.* Why, *Hellen*, thou ſhalt haue my leaue and loue,  
Meanes and attendants, and my louing greetings  
To thoſe of mine in Court! Ile ſtaie at home, 243  
And praie Gods bleſſing into thy attempt.  
Begon to morrow, and be ſure of this,  
What I can helpe thee to, thou ſhalt not miſſe! [*Exeunt.* 246]

<sup>1</sup> *Happily* = Haply.

<sup>2</sup> *a* = one.

239. *and*] an F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Actus Secundus. Scena Prima.*

*Paris. The KING'S Palace.*

*Enter the KING, supported; with diuers yong Lords taking leave for the Florentine warre: Count ROSSILLION, PARROLLES and Attendants. Florish Cornets.*

*King.* Farewell, yong Lords; these warlike principles, 1  
Doe not throw from you! ([*to Lords G. & E.*] and you, my Lords, farewell!)

Share the aduice betwixt you! if both gaine, all  
The guift doth stretch it selfe as 'tis receiu'd, 4  
And is enough for both.

*Lord. G.* 'Tis our hope, sir,  
After well entred souldiers, to returne  
And finde your Grace in health.

*King.* No, no, it cannot be! and yet my heart 8  
Will not confesse he owes the mallady  
That doth my life besiege. ¶ Farewell, yong Lords!  
Whether I liue or die, be you the sonnes  
Of worthy *French men*! let higher *Italy* 12  
(Those bated that inherit but the fall  
Of the last Monarchy) see that you come,  
Not to wooe honour, but to wed it; when  
The brauest questant shrinkes, finde what you seeke, 16  
'That Fame may cry you loud! I say, farewell!

*L. E.* Health, at your bidding, serue your Maicesty!

*King.* Those girles of *Italy*, take heed of them!  
They say, our *French* lacke language to deny, 20  
If they demand: beware of being Captiues  
Before you serue!

*Bo.* Our hearts receiue your warnings.

*King.* Farewell! [*To Attendants.*] Come hether to me!

[*Exit, supported.*]

1. *Lo. G.* Oh my sweet Lord, *that* you wil stay behind vs!

*Parr.* 'Tis not his fault, the spark!

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*Count . . .*] Count, Rosse, and Parrolles 18. *L. E.*] *L. G. F.*

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

2. *Lo. E.* Oh, 'tis braue warres! 25  
*Parr.* Most admirable! I haue seene those warres.  
*Roffill.* I am commanded here, and kept a coyle with  
 'Too young', and 'the next yeere', and "'tis too early'. 28  
*Parr.* And thy minde stand to't, boy, steale away brauely!  
*Roffill.* I shal stay here the for-horfe to a smocke,  
 Creeking my shooes on the plaine Masonry,  
 Till honour be bought vp, and no sword worne 32  
 But one to dance with! By heauen, Ile steale away!  
 1. *Lo. G.* There's honour in the theft!  
*Parr.* Commit it, Count!  
 2. *Lo. E.* I am your accessary; and so, farewell!  
*Rof.* I grow to you, & our parting is a tortur'd body! 36  
 1. *Lo. G.* Farewell, Captaine!  
 2. *Lo. E.* Sweet Mounfier *Parolles*!  
*Parr.* Noble Heroes, my sword and yours are kinne!  
 Good sparkes and lustrous, a word, good mettals! You [40  
 shall finde in the Regiment of the *Spinij*, one Captaine  
*Spurio*, his ficatrice, with an Embleme of warre,<sup>1</sup> heere on his  
 finifter cheeke; it was this very sword entrench'd it: say to  
 him I liue, and obserue his reports for me! 44  
*Lo. G.* We shall, noble Captaine.  
*Parr.* Mars doate on you for his nouices! [*Exeunt Lords.*]  
 ¶ What will ye doe?  
*Roff.* Stay! the King! 48  
*Re-enter KING, supported. ROS. and PAR. go apart.*  
*Parr.* Vse a more spacious ceremonie to the Noble Lords;  
 you haue restrain'd your selfe within the Lift of too cold an  
 adieu: be more expressiue to them: for they weare them-  
 selues in the cap of the time; there do muster true gate, [52  
 eat, speake, and moue vnder the influence of the most re-  
 ceiu'd starre; and, though the deuill leade the measure, such  
 are to be followed: after them, and take a more dilated  
 farewell! 56  
*Roff.* And I will doe so!  
*Parr.* Worthy fellowes; and like to prooue most finewie  
 sword-men! [*Exeunt.*]

29. *to't*] too't F.  
 37. *Farewell*] Farewell F.  
 II. i. 25-59.]

<sup>1</sup> A patch or plaster.—B. Nichol-  
 son. Cp. IV. v. 87-89, pp. 75, 76.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Enter LAFEW.*

*L. Laf. [kneeling]* Pardon, my Lord, for mee and for my tidings! 60

*King.* Ile fee thee to stand vp.

*L. Laf. [rising]* Then here's a man stands that has brought his pardon!

I would you had kneel'd, my Lord, to aske me mercy;  
And that, at my bidding, you could so stand vp! 64

*King.* I would I had; so I had broke thy pate,  
And askt thee mercy for't!

*Laf.* Good faith, a-crosse! but, my good Lord, 'tis thus;  
Will you be cur'd of your infirmitie? 68

*King.* No!

*Laf.* O, will you eat no grapes, my royall foxe?  
Yes, but you will my noble grapes, and if  
My royall foxe could reach them: I haue seen a medicine, 72  
That's able to breath life into a stone,  
Quicken a rocke, and make you dance Canari,  
With sprightly fire and motion; whose simple touch  
Is powerfull to arayle King *Pippen*, nay, 76  
To giue great *Charlemaine* a pen in's hand,  
And write to her a loue-line!

*King.* What 'her' is this?

*Laf.* Why, doctor She! My Lord, there's one arriu'd, 80  
If you will see her: . . . now, by my faith and honour,  
(If seriously I may conuay my thoughts  
In this my light deliuerance,) I haue spoke  
With one, that, in her sexe, her yeeres, profession, 84  
Wifedome, and constancy, hath amaz'd mee more  
Then I dare blame my weakenesse! will you see her,  
(For that is her demand,) and know her bufinesse?  
That done, laugh well at me!

*King.* Now, good *Lafew*, 88  
Bring in the admiration; that we with thee  
May spend our wonder too, or take off thine  
By wondering how thou tookst it.

*Laf.* Nay, Ile fit you,

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

And not be all day neither ! [Exit. 92]  
*King.* Thus he, his speciall nothing, euer prologues !

*Re-enter LAFEW, with HELLEN.*

*Laf.* Nay, come your waies !  
*King.* This haste hath wings indeed !  
*Laf.* Nay, come your waies !  
 This is his Maiestie, say your minde to him ! 96  
 A Traitor you doe looke like ; but such traitors  
 His Maiefty seldome feares : I am *Cresseds* Vncle,  
 That dare leaue two together ; far you well ! [Exit.  
*King.* Now, faire one, do's your busines follow vs ? 100  
*Hel.* I, my good Lord.  
*Gerard de Narbon* was my father ;  
 In what he did professe, well found.  
*King.* I knew him.  
*Hel.* The rather will I spare my praises towards him ; 104  
 Knowing him is enough. On's bed of death,  
 Many receits he gaue me, chieflie one,  
 Which, (as the dearest issue of his practice,  
 And, of his olde experience, th'onlie darling,) 108  
 He bad me store vp, as a triple eye,  
 Safer then mine owne two, more deare : I haue so ;  
 And, hearing your high Maiestie is toucht  
 With that malignant cause, wherein the honour 112  
 Of my deare fathers gift stands cheefe in power,  
 I come to tender it, and my appliance,  
 With all bound humbleness.  
*King.* We thanke you, maiden ;  
 But may not be so credulous of cure, 116  
 When our most learn'd Doctors leaue vs ; and  
 The congregated Colledge haue concluded,  
 That labouring Art can neuer ransome Nature  
 From her inaydible estate : I say, we must not 120  
 So staine our iudgement, or corrupt our hope,  
 To prostitute our past-cure malladie  
 To émpiricks ; or to disseuer so 123

93. *Re-enter . . . Hellen.*] Enter Hellen. F (after 'come your waies,'  
 l. 94).

II. i. 92-123.]



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Our great selfe and our credit, to esteeme A fencelesse helpe, when helpe past sence we deeme !	125
<i>Hell.</i> My dutie then shall pay me for my paines : I will no more enforce mine office on you ; Humbly intreating from your royall thoughts A modest one, to beare me backe againe.	129
<i>King.</i> I cannot giue thee lesse, to be cal'd gratefull : Thou thoughtst to helpe me ; and such thanks I giue, As one neere death to those that with him liue : But, what at full I know, thou knowst no part ; I knowing all my perill, thou no Art.	132 134
<i>Hell.</i> What I can doe, can doe no hurt to try Since you set vp your reft 'gainst remedie. He that of greatest workes is finisher, Oft does them by the weakest minister : So holy Writ in babes hath iudgement showne, When Iudges haue bin babes ; great fouds haue flowne From simple sources ; and great Seas haue dried, When Miracles haue by the greatest beene denied. Oft expectation failes, and most oft there Where most it promises ; and oft it hits, Where hope is coldest, and despaire most sits.	136 138 140 142 145
<i>King.</i> I must not heare thee ! fare thee wel, kind maide ! Thy paines, not vs'd, must by thy selfe be paid : Proffers, not tooke, reape thanks for their reward.	147
<i>Hel.</i> Inspir'd Merit so by breath is bard : It is not so with Him that all things knowes, As 'tis with vs that square our guesse by shoves ; But most it is presumption in vs, when The help of heauen we count the act of men. Deare fir, to my endeauours give consent ! Of heauen, not me, make an experiment ! I am not an Imposture, that proclaime My selfe against the leuill of mine aime ; But know I thinke, and thinke I know most fure, My Art is not past power, nor you past cure.	149 151 153 155 157 159

142. <i>greatest</i> ] Theobald. great'st	(Theobald conj.). shifts F.
F. Theobald also read <i>mir'cles</i>	156. <i>Imposture</i> ] Imposture F.
for <i>miracles</i> .	Impostor F3.
145. <i>sits</i> ] Pope. fits Collier	



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*King.* Art thou so confident? Within what space  
Hop'ft thou my cure?  
*Hel.* The great<sup>st</sup> Grace lending grace, 161  
Ere twice the horses of the sunne shall bring  
Their fiery torcher his diurnall ring; 163  
Ere twice, in murke and occidentall dampe,  
Moist *Hesperus* hath quench'd her<sup>1</sup> sleepey Lampe; 165  
Or foure and twenty times the Pylots glasse  
Hath told the theeuish minutes, how they passe; 167  
What is infirme, from your sound parts shall flie,  
Health shall liue free, and sickeneffe freely dye. 169  
*King.* Vpon thy certainty and confidence  
What dar'ft thou venter?  
*Hell.* Taxe of impudence, 171  
A strumpets boldnesse, a divulg'd shame,  
Traduc'd by odious ballads! my maidens name 173  
Seard otherwise; ne,<sup>2</sup> worfe of worft extended,  
With vildest torture, let my life be ended! 175  
*Kin.* Methinks in thee some bleff'd spirit doth speak  
His powerfull sound within an organ weake! 177  
And what impossibility would flay  
In common fence, fence saues another way. 179  
Thy life is deere; for all, that life can rate  
Worth name of life, in thee hath estimate; 181  
Youth, beauty, wisedome, courage, all  
That happines and prime can happy call: 183  
Thou this to hazard, needs must intimate  
Skill infinite, or monstrous desperate. 185  
Sweet practiser, thy Phyficke I will try,  
That ministers thine owne death, if I die! 187  
*Hel.* If I breake time, or flinch in property  
Of what I spoke, vnpittied let me die, 189  
And well deferu'd! not helping, death's my fee;  
But, if I helpe, what doe you promise me? 191  
*Kin.* Make thy demand!  
*Hel.* But will you make it euen?  
*Kin.* I, by my Scepter, and my hopes of helpe!<sup>3</sup>

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161. *great'st*] Capell. greatest F. | <sup>2</sup> *ne* = nay.  
<sup>1</sup> *her*] F. his Rowe. But *Hes-* | <sup>3</sup> *helpe*] F. heaven Thirlby, to  
*perus*, the evening star, is *Venus*. | preserve the sequence of couplets.  
 II. i. 160-193.] 26

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Hel.* Then shalt thou giue me, with thy kingly hand,  
What husband in thy power I will command: 195  
Exempted be from me the arrogance  
To choofe from forth the royall bloud of *France*, 197  
My low and humble name to propagate  
With any branch or image of thy state; 199  
But fuch a one, thy vassall, whom I know  
Is free for me to aske, thee to bestow. 201  
*Kin.* Heere is my hand! the premises obseru'd,  
Thy will, by my performance shall be seru'd: 203  
So make the choice of thy owne time; for I,  
Thy résolv'd Patient, on thee still relye: 205  
More should I question thee, and more I must,  
(Though more to know, could not be more to trust,) 207  
From whence thou cam'st, how tended on: but rest,  
Vnquestion'd, welcome; and vndoubted, blest. 209  
¶ Giue me some helpe heere, hoa! ¶ If thou proceed  
As high as word, my deed shall match thy deed! 211  
[*Floris.* *Exeunt.* *The KING supported.*

*Actus Secundus. Scena Secunda.*

*Rossillion. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Countesse and Clowne.*

*Lady (Countess).* Come on, sir; I shall now put you to  
the height of your breeding!

*Clown.* I will shew my selfe highly fed, and lowly taught:  
I know my businesse is but to the Court. 4

*Lady.* 'To the Court'! why, what place make you speciall,  
when you put off that with such contempt? 'But to the  
Court'!

*Clo.* Truly, Madam, if God haue lent a man any man- [8  
ners, hee may easilie put it off at Court: hee that cannot  
make a legge, put off's cap, kisse his hand, and say nothing,  
has neither legge, hands, lippe, nor cap; and, indeed, such a  
fellow, to say precisely, were not for the Court: but, for [12  
me, I haue an answere will serue all men.

---

211. *Exeunt.*] Exit. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Lady.* Marry, that's a bountifull answere, that fits all questions!

*Clo.* It is like a Barbers chaire, that fits all buttockes; [16 the pin buttocke, the quatch-buttocke, the brawn buttocke, or any buttocke.

*Lady.* Will your answere serue fit to all questions?

*Clo.* As fit as ten groats is for the hand of an Atturney, [20 as your *French* Crowne for your taffety punke, as *Tibs* rush for *Toms* fore-finger, as a pancake for Shroue-tuesday, a Morris for May-day, as the naile to his hole, the Cuckold to his horne, as a scolding queane to a wrangling knaue, as [24 the Nuns lip to the Friers mouth; nay, as the pudding to his skin.

*Lady.* Haue you, I say, an answere of such fitnesse for all questions? 28

*Clo.* From below your Duke, to beneath your Constable, it will fit any question.

*Lady.* It must be an answere of most monstrous size, that must fit all demands. 32

*Clo.* But a trifle neither, in good faith, if the learned should speake truth of it: heere it is, and all that belongs to't. Aske mee if I am a Courtier; it shall doe you no harme to learne! 36

*Lady.* To be young againe, if we could! I will bee a foole in question, hoping to bee the wiser by your answer. 'I pray you, fir, are you a Courtier?'

*Clo.* 'O Lord, fir!' . . . (There's a simple putting off! more, more, a hundred of them!) 41

*La.* 'Sir, I am a poore friend of yours, that loues you.'

*Clo.* 'O Lord, fir!' . . . (Thicke, thicke, spare not me!)

*La.* 'I thinke, fir, you can eate none of this homely meate?'

*Clo.* 'O Lord, fir!' . . . (Nay, put me to't, I warrant you!)

*La.* 'You were lately whipt, fir, as I thinke.' 46

*Clo.* 'O Lord, fir!' . . . (Spare not me!)

*La.* Doe you crie, 'O Lord, fir!' at your whipping, and 'spare not me?' Indeed, your 'O Lord, fir!' is very sequent to your whipping: you would answere very well to a whipping, if you were but bound to't! 51

33. *trifle*] trifle F.

39. *I pray you*] *La.* I pray you F.

II. ii. 14-51.]

45. *to't*] too't F.

51. *to't*] too't F.

28

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Clo.* I nere had worfe lucke in my life in my 'O Lord, fir!'  
I see things may serue long, but not serue euer!

*La.* I play the noble hufwife with the time, to entertaine it  
fo merrily with a foole! 55

*Clo.* 'O Lord, fir!' . . . (Why, there't serues well agen!)

*La.* An end, fir! to your bufinesse! Giue *Hellen* this!

[*Glues a Letter.*

And vrge her to a present answer backe;

Commend me to my kinsmen, and my sonne:

59

This is not much!

*Clo.* 'Not much' commendation to them.

*La.* 'Not much' imployment for you: you vnderstand me?

*Clo.* Most fruitfully: I am there, before my legges.

*La.* Haft<sup>1</sup> thou agen!

[*Exeunt.* 64

*Actus Secundus. Scena Tertla.*

*Parls. The KING's Palaca.*

*Enter Count ROSSILLION, LAFEW, and PAROLLES.*

*Old Laf.* They say, miracles are past; and we haue our  
Philosophicall persons, to make moderne and familiar,  
things supernaturall and causelesse. Hence is it, that we  
make trifles of terrours; enconcing our selues into seem-  
ing knowledge, when we should submit our selues to an  
vnknowne feare. 6

*Par.* Why, 'tis the rarest argument of wonder, that hath  
shot out in our latter times!

*Rof.* And so 'tis!

*Ol. Laf.* To be relinquisht of the Artifts, . . .

10

(*Par.* So I say; both of *Galen* and *Paracelsus*!)

*Ol. Laf.* Of all the learned and authenticke fellowes, . . .

(*Par.* Right! so I say.)

*Ol. Laf.* That gaue him out incureable, . . .

14

(*Par.* Why, there 'tis! so say I too.)

*Ol. Laf.* Not to be help'd, . . .

(*Par.* Right! as 'twere a man assur'd of a . . .)

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57. *An*] Rowe (ed. 2). And F.

63. *legges*] legeggs F.

<sup>1</sup> *Hast* = Haste.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ol. Laf.* Vncertaine life, and sure death. 18  
*(Par.* Iust! you say well; so would I haue said!)

*Ol. Laf.* I may truly say, it is a noueltie to the world!  
*Par.* It is, indeede, if you will haue it in shewing; you shall  
 reade it in . . . what do ye call there? 22

*Ol. Laf.* A 'shewing' of a heauenly effect in an earthly Actor.  
*Par.* That's it! I would haue said the verie fame.

*Ol. Laf.* Why, your Dolphin<sup>1</sup> is not lustier: fore mee, I  
 speake in respect . . . 26

*Par.* Nay, 'tis strange, 'tis very strange, that is the breefe  
 and the tedious of it; and he's of a most facinerious spirit, that  
 will not acknowledge it to be the . . .

*Ol. Laf.* Very hand of heauen . . . 30

*Par.* I! so I say.

*Ol. Laf.* In a most weake . . .

*Par.* And debile minifter, great power, great transcendence;  
 which should, indeede, giue vs a further vse to be made, then  
 alone the recou'ry of the King, as to bee . . . 35

*Old Laf.* Generally thankfull.

*Par.* I would haue said it; you say well. Heere comes  
 the King! 38

*Enter KING, HELLEN, and Attendants.*

*Ol. Laf.* 'Lustique,'<sup>2</sup> as the *Dutchman* saies! Ile like a  
 maide the better whil't I haue a tooth in my head: why,  
 he's able to leade her a Carranto!

*Par.* *Mort du vinaigre!* is not this *Helen*? 42

*Ol. Laf.* Fore God, I thinke so!

*King.* Goe call before mee all the Lords in Court!

*[Exit an Attendant.]*

¶ Sit, my Preferuer, by thy patients side;  
 And with this healthfull hand, whose banisht sence 46  
 Thou hast repeal'd, a second time receyue  
 The confirmation of my promis'd giift,  
 Which but attends thy naming!

*Enter 3 or 4 Lords.*

Faire Maide, send forth thine eye! this youthfull parcell 50

<sup>1</sup> *Dolphin* = Dauphin.

<sup>33.</sup> *greaf*] *greaf* F.

<sup>2</sup> *'Lustique*, Pleasant, Delightfull,

or Delicious.'—Hexham, 1660.

<sup>42.</sup> *Mort du vinaigre*] *Mor du*

*vinager* F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Of Noble Batchellors, stand at my bestowing,  
 Ore whom, both Soueraigne power and fathers voice  
 I haue to vse : thy franke election make !  
 Thou hast power to choose, and they none to forsake ! 54  
*Hel. [to Lords]* To each of you, one faire and vertuous  
 Mistris,  
 Fall, when Loue please ! marry, to each but one !  
*Old Laf.* I'de giue bay *Curtall*, and his furniture,  
 My mouth no more were broken then these boyes, 58  
 And writ as little beard !  
*King.* Peruse them well !  
 Not one of those but had a Noble father.  
 [*She addresseth her to the Lords.*]  
*Hel.* Gentlemen,  
 Heauen hath, through me, restor'd the King to health. 62  
*All.* We vnderstand it, and thanke heauen for you !  
*Hel.* I am a simple Maide ; and therein wealthiest,  
 That I protest I simply am a Maide !—  
 ¶ Please it your Maiestie, I haue done already ! 66  
 The blushes in my cheekes thus whisper mee,  
 ' We blush that thou shouldst choose ; but, be refused,  
 Let the white death sit on thy cheek for euer ; 69  
 Wee'l nere come there againe ! '  
*King.* Make choise ; and, see,  
 Who shuns thy loue, shuns all his loue in mee ! 71  
*Hel.* Now, *Dian*, from thy Altar do I fly ;  
 And to imperiall Loue, that God most high, 73  
 Do my fighes streame !—[*To 1. Lo.*] Sir, wil you heare my suite ?  
 1. *Lo.* And grant it.  
*Hel.* Thankes, sir ; all the rest is mute ! 75  
*Ol. Laf.* I had rather be in this choise then throw Amef-  
 ace for my life !  
*Hel. [to 2. Lo.]* The honor, sir, that flames in your faire eyes,  
 Before I speake, too threatningly replies : 79  
 Loue make your fortunes twentie times aboue  
 Her that so vvishes, and her humble loue ! 81  
 2. *Lo.* No better, if you please.  
*Hel.* My wifh receiue,  
 Which great Loue grant, and so I take my leaue ! 83

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ol. Laf.* Do all they denie her? And they were fons of mine, I'de haue them whip'd; or I would fend them to'th *Turke*, to make Eunuches of! 86

*Hel.* [to 3. Lo.] Be not afraid that I your hand should take; Ile neuer do you wrong for your owne sake! 88  
Blessing vpon your vowes! and in your bed  
Finde fairer fortune, if you euer wed! 90

*Old Laf.* These boyes are boyes of Ice; they'le none haue her: sure, they are bastards to the *English*; the *French* nere got em. 93

*La.* (*Hel.*) [to 4. Lo.] You are too young, too happie, and too good,  
To make your selfe a sonne out of my blood! 95

*4. Lord.* Fair one! I thinke not so!

*Ol. Lord.* (*Laf.*) There's one grape yet: I am sure thy father drunke wine! But if thou be'st not an asse, I am a youth of fourteene; I haue knowne thee already! 99

*Hel.* [to **BERTRAM**] I dare not say I take you; but I giue Me and my seruice, euer whilst I liue 101  
Into your guiding power. ¶ This is the man!

*King.* Why, then, young *Bertram*, take her! shee's thy wife!

*Ber.* My 'wife'! my Leige? I shal beseech your highnes, In such a busines, giue me leaue to vse 105  
The helpe of mine owne eies!

*King.* Know'ft thou not, *Bertram*,  
What shee ha's done for mee?

*Ber.* Yes, my good Lord;  
But neuer hope to know why I should marrie her. 108

*King.* Thou know'ft shee ha's rais'd me from my sickly bed.

*Ber.* But followes it, my Lord, to bring me downe  
Must answer for your raising? I knowe her well:  
Shee had her breeding at my father's charge. 112  
A poore Physitians daughter, my wife! Disdaine  
Rather corrupt me euer!

*King.* Tis onely title thou disdainst in her, the which  
I can build vp. Strange is it that our bloods, 116  
Of colour, waight, and heat, pour'd all together,

---

92. *her*] heere F.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Would quite confound distinction, yet stands off  
 In differences so mightie! If she bee  
 All that is vertuous, (saue what thou dislik'st,  
 'A poore Phisitians daughter,') thou dislik'st 120  
 Of vertue for the name: but doe not so!  
 From lowest<sup>1</sup> place, whence vertuous things proceed,  
 The place is dignified by th' doers deede: 124  
 Where great additions fwell's, and vertue none,  
 It is a dropstied honour: Good alone 126  
 Is good, without a name; Vilenesse is so:  
 The propertie, by what it is, should go, 128  
 Not by the title. Shee is young, wise, faire;  
 In these, to Nature shee's immediate heire;  
 And these breed honour: that is honours scorne,  
 Which challenges it selfe as honours borne, 132  
 And is not like the fire: Honours thrue,  
 When rather from our acts we them deriue, 134  
 Then our fore-goers: the meere words, a flauie  
 Deboish'd on euerie tombe, on euerie graue;  
 A lying Trophee, and as oft is dumbe, 136  
 Where dust, and damn'd obliuion, is the Tombe  
 Of honour'd bones indeed! What should be saide? 138  
 If thou canst like this creature, as a maide,  
 I can create the rest: Vertue, and shee, 140  
 Is her owne dower; Honour, and wealth, from mee! 142  
*Ber.* I cannot loue her, nor will striue to doo't!  
*King.* Thou wrong'st thy selfe, if thou shold'st striue to  
 choofe.  
*Hel.* That you are well restor'd, my Lord, I'me glad:  
 Let the rest go! 146  
*King.* My Honor's at the stake!—Which to defeate,<sup>2</sup>  
 I must produce my power! Heere, take her hand,  
 Proud scornfull boy! vnworthie this good gift,  
 That dost in vile misprision shackle vp 150

<sup>1</sup> *From lowest place*, sc. from that lowest place.

128, *it is*] is F.

<sup>2</sup> *Which to defeate*; that is, the dishonour which *Ber.*'s refusal will bring upon me, a thought unexpressed by the *King*. Or 'the

mere fact that the *King*'s honour is at the stake, like a criminal, is in itself a dishonour, *which to defeate*, he says,—to defeat which dishonourable predicament,—*I must produce my power.*'—B. N.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

My loue, and her desert; that canst not dreame,  
We (poizing vs in her defectiue scale)  
Shall weigh thee to the beame; that wilt not know,  
It is in Vs to plant thine Honour where 154  
We please to haue it grow! Checke thy contempt!  
Obey Our will, which trauailes in thy good!  
Beleeue not thy disdaine, but presentlie  
Do thine owne fortunes that obedient right 158  
Which both thy dutie owes, and Our power claimes;  
Or I will throw thee from my care for euer  
Into the staggers, and the carelesse lapse  
Of youth and ignorance; both my reuenge and hate 162  
Loosing vpon thee, in the name of iustice,  
Without all termes of pittie! Speake! thine answer!  
*Ber.* Pardon, my gracious Lord! for I submit  
My fancie to your eies: when I confider 166  
What great creation, and what dole of honour,  
Flies where you bid it, I finde that she, which late  
Was in my Nobler thoughts most base, is now  
The praised of the King; who, so ennobled, 170  
Is, as 'twere, borne so!  
*King.* Take her by the hand,  
And tell her she is thine! to whom I promise  
A counterpoize; If not to thy estate,  
A ballance more repleat.  
*Ber.* I take her hand. 174  
*Kin.* Good fortune, and the fauour of the King,  
Smile vpon this Contráct! whose Ceremonie  
Shall seeme expedient on the now borne brieft,<sup>1</sup>  
And be perform'd to night: the solemne Feast 178  
Shall more attend vpon the coming space,  
Expecting absent friends. ¶ As thou lou'st her,  
Thy loue's to me Religious; else, do's erre! [*Exeunt.* 181

*PAROLLES and LAFEW stay behind, commenting of this wedding.*

*Laf.* Do you heare, Monsieur? A word with you!

*Par.* Your pleasure, sir.

*Laf.* Your Lord and Master did well to make his recantation

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<sup>1</sup> The now created document, or Contract of Marriage.  
II. iii. 151-184.] 34

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* 'Recantation'? My 'Lord'? my 'Master'? 185

*Laf.* I! Is it not a Language I speake?

*Par.* A most harsh one, and not to bee vnderstoode without bloudie succeeding! My 'Master'!

*Laf.* Are you Companion to the Count *Rofillion*? 189

*Par.* To any 'Count'; to all Counts; to what is man!

*Laf.* To what is Counts man: Counts maister is of another file. 192

*Par.* You are too old, fir! Let it satisfie you, you are too old!

*Laf.* I must tell thee, firrah, I write Man; to which title age cannot bring thee! 196

*Par.* What I dare too well do, I dare not do.

*Laf.* I did thinke thee, for two ordinaries, to bee a prettie wife fellow; thou didst make tollerable vent of thy trauell; it might passe: yet the scarffes and the bannerets about thee [200 did manifoldlie diffwade me from beleeuing thee a vessell of too great a burthen. I haue now found thee: when I loose thee againe, I care not: yet art thou good for nothing but taking vp; and that thou'rt scarce worth. 204

*Par.* Hadst thou not the priuiledge of Antiquity vpon thee, . . . 206

*Laf.* Do not plunge thy selfe too farre in anger, leaft thou hasten thy triall; which if . . . Lord haue mercie on thee for a hen! So, my good window of Lettice, fare thee well! thy casement I neede not open, for I look through thee. Giue me thy hand! 211

*Par.* My Lord, you giue me most egregious indignity!

*Laf.* I, with all my heart; and thou art worthy of it!

*Par.* I haue not, my Lord, deseru'd it. 214

*Laf.* Yes, good faith, eu'rv dramme of it; and I will not bate thee a scruple!

*Par.* Well, I shall be wiser . . . 217

*Laf.* Eu'n as soone as thou can'st, for thou hast to pull at a smacke a'th contrarie! If euer thou bee'st bound in thy skarfe and beaten, thou shall finde what it is to be proud of thy bondage! I haue a desire to holde my acquaint- [221  
ance with thee, (or rather my knowledge,) that I may say, in the default, 'he is a man I know'!

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* My Lord, you do me most insupportable vexation.

*Laf.* I would it were hell paines for thy sake, and my poore doing eternall! for doing, I am past; as I will by thee, in what motion age will giue me leaue! [Exit. 227]

*Par.* Well, thou hast a sonne shall take this disgrace off me; scuruy, old, filthy, scuruy Lord! Well, I must be patient; there is no fettering of authority! Ile beate him (by my life) if I can meete him with any conuenience, [231 and he were double and double a Lord! Ile haue no more pittie of his age then I would haue of . . . Ile beate him, and if I could but meet him agen! 234]

*Re-enter LAFEW.*

*Laf.* Sirra! your 'Lord' and 'mafter's' married! there's newes for you: you haue a new Mistris! 236]

*Par.* I most vnfaignedly beseech your Lordshippe to make some reseruatiō of your wrongs. He is my good Lord: whom I serue aboue, is my mafter.

*Laf.* Who? God?

*Par.* I, sir! 241]

*Laf.* The deuill it is, that's thy master. Why doest thou garter vp thy armes a this fashion? Dost make hose of thy sleeues? Do other seruants so? Thou wert best set thy lower part where thy nose stands! By mine Honor, [245 if I were but two houres yonger, I'd beate thee! meethink'it thou art a generall offence, and euery man shold beate thee: I thinke thou wast created for men to breath themselues vpon thee! 249]

*Par.* This is hard and vnderferued measure, my Lord!

*Laf.* Go, to, sir! you were beaten in *Italy* for picking a kernell out of a Pomgranat; you are a vagabond, and no true traueller! you are more sawcie with Lodes and honourable personages, then the Commisiō of your birth and [254 vertue giues you Heraldry! You are not worth another word, else I'd call you 'knaue'. I leaue you! [Exit. 258]

*Par.* Good, very good; it is so then! good, very good! let it be conceal'd awhile! 258]

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251. *so*] too F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Enter Count ROSSILLION.*

- Rof.* Vndone, and forfeited to cares for euer!  
*Par.* What's the matter, sweet-heart?  
*Rofill.* Although before the solemne Priest I haue sworne,  
 I will not bed her. 262  
*Par.* What! what, sweet heart?  
*Rof.* O my *Parrollës*, they haue married me!  
 Ile to the *Tuscan* warres, and neuer bed her!  
*Par.* *France* is a dog-hole, and it no more merits 266  
 The tread of a mans foot! to'th warres!  
*Rof.* There's letters from my mother: What th'import is,  
 I know not yet. [warres!  
*Par.* I, that would be knowne: to'th warres, my boy, to'th  
 He weares his honor in a boxe vnseene, 271  
 That hugges his kickie wickie heare<sup>1</sup> at home,  
 Spending his manlie marrow in her armes,  
 Which should sustaine the bound and high curuet 274  
 Of *Marfes* fierie steed! To other Regions!  
*France* is a stable! wee, that dwell in't, lades;  
 Therefore, to'th warre!  
*Rof.* It shall be so! Ile send her to my house, 278  
 Acquaint my mother with my hate to her,  
 And wherefore I am fled; Write to the King  
 That which I durst not speake: His present gift  
 Shall furnish me to those *Italian* fields 282  
 Where noble fellows strike. Warres is no strife  
 To the darke house, and the detested wife! 284  
*Par.* Will this Caprichio hold in thee, art sure?  
*Rof.* Go with me to my chamber, and aduise me!  
 Ile send her straight away: To morrow  
 Ile to the warres, she to her fingle sorrow! 288  
*Par.* Why, these bals bound; ther's noife in it! Tis hard:  
 A yong man married, is a man that's mard! 290  
 Therefore away, and leaue her; brauely go!  
 The King ha's done you wrong; but, hush, 'tis so! [*Exeunt.*

258. *Enter* . . . ] F (after l. 256).  
 267. *to'th*] too'th F.  
 270. *to'th* . . . *to'th*] too'th . . .  
 too'th F.

<sup>1</sup> *heare* = here.

277. *to'th*] too'th F.  
 284. *detested*] Rowe. detected F.  
 286. *advise*] aduice F.  
 292. *Exeunt.*] Exit. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Actus Secundus. Scena Quarta.*

*Paris. The KING'S Palace.*

*Enter HELENA and Clowne.*

*Hel.* My mother greets me kindly: is she well? 1

*Clo.* She is not 'well'; but yet she has her health: she's very merrie; but yet she is not 'well': but, thanks be giuen, she's very 'well', and wants nothing i'th world; but yet she is not 'well'. 5

*Hel.* If she be 'verie wel', what do's she ayle, that she's 'not verie well'? 10

*Clo.* Truly, she's 'very well,' indeed, but for two things.

*Hel.* What 'two things'? 9

*Clo.* One, that she's not in heauen, whether God send her quickly! the other, that she's in earth, from whence God send her quickly! 12

*Enter PAROLLES.*

*Par.* Blesse you, my fortunate Ladie!

*Hel.* I hope, sir, I haue your good will to haue mine owne good fortunes? 15

*Par.* You had my prayers to leade them on; and to keepe them on, haue them still! ¶ O, my knaue! how do's my old Ladie? 18

*Clo.* So that you had her wrinkles, and I her money, I would she did as you say!

*Par.* Why, I say nothing! 21

*Clo.* Marry, you are the wiser man; for many a mans tongue shakes out his masters vndoing: to say nothing, to do nothing, to know nothing, and to haue nothing, is to be a great part of your title; which is within a verie little of nothing. 26

*Par.* Away! th'art a knaue!

*Clo.* You should haue said, sir, 'before a knaue, th'art a knaue'; that's, before me th'art a knaue: this had beene truth, sir! 30

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15. *fortunes*] Capell (Heath conj.). fortune F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* Go to! thou art a wittie foole; I haue found thee!

*Clo.* Did you finde me in your selfe, fir? or were you taught to finde me? The search, fir, was profitable; and much Foole may you find in you, euen to the worlds pleasure, and the encrease of laughter! 35

*Par.* A good knaue, ifaith! and well fed!

¶ *Madam*, my Lord will go awaie to night;  
A verie serrious bufinesse call's on him. 38

The great prerogatiue and rite of loue,  
Which, as your due, time claimes, he do's acknowledge,  
But puts it off to a compell'd restraint:  
Whose want, and whose delay, is strew'd with sweets, 42  
Which they distill now in the curb'd time,  
To make the comming houre oreflow with ioy,  
And pleasure drowne the brim!

*Hel.* What's his will else?

*Par.* That you will take your instant leaue a'th king, 46  
And make this hast as your owne good proceeding,  
Strengthen'd with what Apologie you thinke  
May make it probable neede.

*Hel.* What more commands hee?

*Par.* That, hauing this obtain'd, you presentlie 50  
Attend his further pleasure.

*Hel.* In euery thing I waite vpon his will.

*Par.* I shall report it so.

*Hell.*

I pray you!

[*Exit PAR.*

¶ Come, firrah!

*Exeunt.* 54

*Actus Secundus. Scena Quinta.*

*Paris. The KING'S Palace.*

*Enter LAFEW and BERTRAM.*

*Laf.* But I hope your Lordshippe thinkes not him a souldier?

*Ber.* Yes, my Lord, and of verie valiant approofe.

*Laf.* You haue it from his owne deliuerance! 4

31. to] too F.

33. *The search*] *Clo.* The search

53. *Exit Par.*] F (after so, l. 53).

54. *Exeunt.*] *Exit.* F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ber.* And by other warranted testimonie!

*Laf.* Then my Diall goes not true! I tooke this Larke for a bunting!

*Ber.* I do assure you, my Lord, he is very great in knowledge, and accordinglie valiant. 9

*Laf.* I haue, then, finn'd against his experience, and transgressed against his valour; and my state that way is dangerous, since I cannot yet find in my heart to repent. Heere he comes! I pray you, make vs friends; I will pursue the amitie. 14

*Enter PAROLLES.*

*Par.* [*to BER.*] These things shall be done, sir!

*Laf.* [*to BER.*] Pray you, sir, whose his Tailor? 16

*Par.* Sir?

*Laf.* O, I know him well: I, sir; hee, sir, 's a good workeman! a verie good Tailor!

*(Ber. [aside to PAR.] Is shee gone to the king? 20*

*Par.* Shee is.

*Ber.* Will shee away to night?

*Par.* As you'le haue her.

*Ber.* I haue writ my letters, casketted my treasure, 24  
Giuen order for our horses; and to night,  
When I should take possession of the Bride,  
End, ere I doe begin!)

*Laf.* A good Trauailer is something at the latter end of a dinner; but one that lies three thirds, and vses a known truth to passe a thousand nothings with, should bee once hard,<sup>1</sup> and thrice beaten! ¶ God saue you, Capitaine! 31

*Ber.* Is there any vnkindnes betweene my Lord and you, Monsieur?

*Par.* I know not how I haue deserued to run into my Lords displeasure. 35

*Laf.* You haue made shift to run into't, bootes and spurres and all, like him that leapt into the Custard; and out of it you'le runne againe, rather then suffer question for your residence.

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27. *End*] Collier (Egerton MS.). | 29. *one*] on F.  
And F. | 1 *hard* = heard.  
II. v. 5-39.] 40



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ber.* It may bee you haue mistaken him, my Lord. 40

*Laf.* And shall doe so euer, though I tooke him at's prayers! Fare you well, my Lord! and beleeeue this of me, there can be no kernell in this light Nut: the foule of this man is his cloathes: Trust him not in matter of heaue [44 consequence! I haue kept of them tame, & know their natures. ¶ Farewell, Monsieur! I haue spoken better of you then you haue or will to deferue at my hand; but we must do good against euill. *[Exit.* 48

*Par.* An idle Lord, I sweare!

*Ber.* I thinke so.

*Par.* Why, do you not know him?

*Ber.* Yes, I do know him well; and common speech 52  
Giues him a worthy passe.—Heere comes my clog!

*Enter HELENA.*

*Hel.* I haue, sir, as I was commanded from you,  
Spoke with the King, and haue procur'd his leaue  
For present parting; onely, he desires 56  
Some priuate speech with you.

*Ber.* I shall obey his will.  
You must not meruaile, *Helena*, at my course,  
Which holds not colour with the time, nor does  
The ministration, and required office 60  
On my particular. Prepar'd I was not  
For such a businesse; therefore am I found  
So much vnsetled: This driues me to intreate you,  
That presently you take your way for home, 64  
And rather muse, then aske, why I intreate you;  
For my respects are better then they seeme,  
And my appointments haue in them a neede  
Greater then shewes it selfe, at the first view, 68  
To you that know them not. This to my mother!

*[Giuing a Letter.*

'Twill be two daies ere I shall see you; so,  
I leaue you to your wifedome.

*Hel.* Sir, I can nothing say,  
But that I am your most obedient seruant; . . . 72

*(Ber. Come, come, no more of that!)*

*Hel.* And euer shall

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

With true obseruance seeke to eeke out that,  
Wherein toward me my homely starres haue faild  
To equall my great fortune!

*Ber.* Let that goe! 76  
My haft is verie great. Farwell! Hie home!

*Hel.* Pray, sir, your pardon!

*Ber.* Well, what would you say?

*Hel.* I am not worthie of the wealth I owe,<sup>1</sup>  
Nor dare I say 'tis mine; (and yet it is;) 80  
But, like a timorous theefe, most faine would steale  
What law does vouch mine owne.

*Ber.* What would you haue?

*Hel.* Something; and scarce so much: nothing, indeed. 84  
I would not tell you what I would, my Lord:—  
Faith, yes!

Strangers and foes do funder, and not kisse!

*Ber.* I pray you stay not, but in haft to horse! 88

*Hel.* I shall not breake your bidding, good my Lord.

*Ber.* [to PAR.] Where are my other men, Monsieur?

¶ Farwell!

[Exit HELENA.]

Go thou toward home; where I wil neuer come,  
Whilst I can shake my sword, or heare the drumme!  
Away, and for our flight!

*Par.* Brauely, Coragio! [Exeunt. 93

*Actus Tertius. Scena Prima.*

*Florence. The DUKES Palace.*

*Flourish.* Enter the Duke of Florence, and the two French-  
men (Lords G. & E.); with a troope of Souldiers.

*Duke.* So that, from point to point, now haue you heard 1  
The fundamentall reasons of this warre;  
Whose great decision hath much blood let forth

<sup>1</sup> owe = own.

90. Where . . . Farwell!] Han-  
mer (Theobald conj.): continued

II. v. 74-93; III. i. 1-3.]

to Helena in F.

91. Go thou] *Ber.* Go thou F.  
Florence] Floreuce (turned n) F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

And more thirsts after.  
*1 Lord. G.* Holy seemes the quarrell 4  
 Vpon your Graces part; blacke and fearefull  
 On the oppofer.  
*Duke.* Therefore we meruaile much, our Cofin *France*  
 Would, in fo iust a bufineffe, fhut his bofome 8  
 Againft our borrowing prayers.  
*French E.* Good my Lord,  
 The reasons of our state I cannot yeelde  
 But like a common and an outward man,  
 That the great figure of a Counsaile frames, 12  
 By selfe-vnable motion; therefore dare not  
 Say what I thinke of it, since I haue found  
 My selfe in my incertaine grounds to faile  
 As often as I guest.  
*Duke.* Be it his pleasure. 16  
*Fren. G.* But I am sure, the yonger of our nature,  
 That surfet on their ease, will, day by day,  
 Come heere for Physicke.  
*Duke.* Welcome shall they bee!  
 And all the honors that can flye from vs, 20  
 Shall on them settle. ¶ You know your places well;  
 When better fall, for your auailles they fell: 22  
 To morrow to the field! [*Flourish. Exeunt.*]

*Actus Tertius. Scena Secunda.*

*Rosalillon. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Countesse with a Letter, and Clowne.*

*Count.* It hath happen'd all, as I would haue had it, saue  
 that he comes not along with her.

*Clo.* By my troth, I take my young Lord to be a verie  
 melancholly man. 4

*Count.* By what obseruance, I pray you?

*Clo.* Why, he will looke vpon his boote, and fing; mend  
 the Ruffe and fing; aske questions and fing; picke his teeth,

4. *1. Lord. G.* *1. Lord. F.*

23. *to the* to'th the F.

[III. l. 4-23; II. 1-7.]

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

and fing. I know a man that had this tricke of melancholy hold<sup>1</sup> a goodly Mannor for a fong. 9

*Lad. (Countess.)* Let me see what he writes, and when he meanes to come. [*Opens Letter.* 11

*Clow. [aside]* I haue no minde to *Isbell* since I was at Court. Our old *Ling*, and our *Isbels* a'th Country, are nothing like your old *Ling* and your *Isbels* a'th Court: the brains of my *Cupid's* knock'd out; and I beginne to loue, as an old man loues money, with no stomacke. 16

*Lad.* What haue we heere?

*Clo.* E'en that you haue there. [*Exit.* 18

*A Letter read by the Countess.*

*'I haue sent you a Daughter-in-Law: shee hath recovered the King, and vndone me. I haue wedded her, not bedded her; and sworne to make the "not" eternall! You shall heare I am runne away: know it before the report come. If there bee bredth enough in the world, I will hold a long distance! My duty to you.*

*Your vnfortunate sonne,  
BERTRAM.'*

This is not well, rash and unbridled boy!  
To flye the fauours of so good a King; 27  
To plucke his indignation on thy head,  
By the misprifing of a Maide too vertuous  
For the contempt of Empire! 31

*Re-enter Clowne.*

*Clo.* O Madam, yonder is heaueie newes within, betweene two fouldiers, and my yong Ladie!

*La.* What is the matter? 34

*Clo.* Nay, there is some comfort in the newes, some comfort; your sonne will not be kild so soone as I thoght he would.

*La.* Why should he be kill'd? 38

*Clo.* So say I, Madame, if he runne away, as I heare he does: the danger is in standing to't; that's the losse of men,

<sup>1</sup> hold = value. sold F3.

18. E'en] Theobald. In F.

40. w't] too't F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

though it be the getting of children! Heere they come, will tell you more! For my part, I onely heare your sonne was run away!

43

*Enter HELLEN, and two Gentlemen (French E. & G.).*

*French E.* Saue you, good Madam!

*Hel.* Madam, my Lord is gone! for euer gone!

*French G.* Do not say so!

*La.* Thinke vpon patience! ¶ Pray you, Gentlemen, 47  
(I haue felt so many quirkes of joy and greefe,  
That the first face of neither on the start  
Can woman me vnto't,) Where is my sonne, I pray you? 50

*Fren. G.* Madam, he's gone to serue the Duke of *Florence*.  
We met him thitherward; for thence we came,  
And, after some dispatch in hand at Court,  
Thither we bend againe. 54

*Hel.* Looke on his Letter, Madam; here's my Passport!

[*Reads*] 'When thou canst get the Ring vpon my finger, (which neuer shall come off,) and shew mee a childe begotten of thy bodie, that I am father to, then call me husband: but in such a "then" I write a "Neuer"!' 59

This is a dreadful sentence!

*La.* Brought you this Letter, Gentlemen?

*I. G.* I, Madam; 62  
And, for the Contents sake, are sorrie for our paines.

*Old La.* [to *HEL.*] I prethee, Ladie, haue a better cheere!  
If thou engrossest all the greefes are thine,  
Thou robbst me of a moiety: He was my sonne,  
But I do wash his name out of my blood, 66  
And thou art all my childe! ¶ Towards *Florence*, is he:

*Fren. G.* I, Madam!

*La.* And to be a souldier?

*Fren. G.* Such is his noble purpose: and, beleuen't, 70  
The Duke will lay vpon him all the honor  
That good conuenience claimes!

*La.*

Returne you thither?

*Fren. E.* I, Madam, with the swiftest wing of speed.

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50. vnto't] vntoo't F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Hel.* [*reads*] 'Till I haue no wife, I haue nothing in France.'  
'Tis bitter!

*La.* Finde you that there?

*Hel.* I, Madame! 74

*Fren. E.* 'Tis but the boldnesse of his hand haply, which his heart was not consenting to!

*Lad.* 'Nothing in France,' vntill he haue no wife!  
There's nothing heere that is too good for him, 78  
But onely she; and she deserues a Lord

That twenty such rude boyes might tend vpon,  
And call her houely, 'Mistis!' ¶ Who was with him?

*Fren. E.* A seruant onely, and a Gentleman 82  
Which I haue sometime knowne.

*La.* *Parolles*, was it not?

*Fren. E.* I, my good Ladie, hee.

*La.* A verie tainted fellow, and full of wickednesse!  
My sonne corrupts a well deriuēd nature 86  
With his inducement!

*Fren. E.* Indeed, good Ladie,  
The fellow has a deale of that; too much  
Which holds him<sup>1</sup> much to haue.

*La.* Y'are welcome, Gentlemen!  
I will intreate you, when you see my sonne, 90  
To tell him that his sword can neuer winne  
The honor that he looses: more Ile intreate you  
Written to beare along.

*Fren. G.* We serue you, Madam,  
In that and all your worthiest affaires. 94

*La.* Not so; but as we change our courtesies,  
Will you draw neere? [*Exeunt. Manet HELENA.*]

*Hel.* 'Till I haue no wife, I haue nothing in France'!  
'Nothing in France,' vntill he has no wife'? 98

Thou shalt haue none, *Rossillion*, none in France;  
Then hast thou all againe! Poore Lord! is't I,  
That chafe thee from thy Countrie, and expose

76. *to*] too F.

83. *Which*] which F.

<sup>1</sup> *holds him* = befits him. Par.  
has 'too much' of 'that', *sc.* 'wick-  
ednesse' (l. 85), which it befits him

III. ii. 73-101.]

to have much of. With the mean-  
ing given to 'holds him', *cp.* *Hel.*'s  
words at I. i. 96-97, pp. 7, 8.  
96. *Exeunt.*] Exit. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Those tender limbes of thine to the euent 102  
 Of the none-sparing warre? And is it I  
 That driue thee from the sportiue Court, where thou  
 Was't shot at with faire eyes, to be the marke  
 Of smoakie Muskets? O you leaden messengers, 106  
 That ride vpon the violent speede of fire,  
 Fly with false ayme; moue the still-peering<sup>1</sup> aire  
 That sings with piercing; do not touch my Lord!  
 Who euer shoots at him, I set him there; 110  
 Who euer charges on his forward brest,  
 I am the Caitiffe that do hold him to't;  
 And, though I kill him not, I am the cause  
 His death was so effected! Better 'twere, 114  
 I met the rauine Lyon when he roar'd  
 With sharpe constraint of hunger; better 'twere,  
 That all the miseries which Nature owes  
 Were mine at once! No, come thou home, *Rossillion*! 118  
 Whence honor but, of danger, winnes a scarre;  
 As oft it looses all: I will be gone!  
 My being heere it is, that holds thee hence:  
 Shall I stay heere to doo't? No, no! although 122  
 The ayre of Paradise did fan the house,  
 And Angels offic'd all! I will be gone,  
 That pittifull rumour may report my flight 125  
 To consolete thine eare. Come night; end day!  
 For with the darke (poore theefe) Ile steale away! [*Exit.* 127

*Actus Tertius. Scena Tertia.*

*Florence. Before the DUKES Palace.*

*Flourish.* Enter, with Drum and Trumpets, the Duke of  
 Florence, attended, ROSSILLION, PARROLLES, Officers,  
 and Soldiers.

*Duke* [*to BER.*] The Generall of our horse thou art; and we,  
 Great in our hope, lay our best loue and credence

<sup>1</sup> ? *still-peering* = ever-prying,  
 and so pervading. Or the 'violent  
 speede of fire' and the seeming  
 stillness of the air are contrasted?

109. *sings*] sings F.

112. *to't*] too't F.

124. *Angels*] Angles F.  
*Flourish . . . Soldiers.*] Flourish.  
 Enter the Duke of Florence, Ros-  
 sillion, drum and trumpets, soldiers,  
 Parrolles. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Vpon thy promising fortune.

*Ber.* Sir, it is  
A charge too heauy for my strength; but yet 4  
Wee'l striue to beare it, for your worthy sake,  
To th'extreme edge of hazard.

*Duke.* Then go thou forth;  
And Fortune play vpon thy prosperous helme,  
As thy auspicious mistress!

[*Exit DUKE to the Palace, attended.*

*Ber.* This very day, 8  
Great *Mars*, I put my selfe into thy file:  
Make me but like my thoughts, and I shall proue  
A louer of thy drumme, hater of loue! [*Exeunt omnes.* 11

*Actus Tertius. Scena Quarta.*

*Rossillon. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Countesse & Steward.*

*La. (Countess.)* Alas! and would you take the letter of her?  
Might you not know she would do as she has done,  
By sending me a Letter? Reade it agen!

*Letter (read by the Steward).*

' I am S. Iaques Pilgrim, thither gone :	4
Ambitious loue hath so in me offended,	
That bare-foot plod I the cold ground vpon,	
With fainted vow my faults to haue amended.	7
Write, write, that, from the bloodie course of warre,	8
My deereſt Maſter, your deare ſonne, may hie!	
Bleſſe him at home in peace, Whiſt I from farre	
His name with zealous feruour ſanctifie!	11
His taken labours, bid him me forgiue;	12
I, his deſpightfull Iuno, ſent him forth	
From Courtly friends, with Camping foes to liue,	
Where death and danger dogges the heeles of worth:	15
He is too good and faire for Death, and mee,	
Whom I my ſelfe embrace, to ſet him free!	17

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7. *hane*] hane (turned u) F.

III. iii. 3-11; iv. 1-17.]



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Ah, what sharpe stings are in her mildest words!  
*Rynaldo*, you did neuer lacke aduice so much,  
As letting her passe so: had I spoke with her,  
I could haue well diuerted her intents, 21  
Which thus she hath preuented!

*Ste.* Pardon me, Madam!  
If I had giuen you this at ouer-night,  
She might haue beene ore-tane; and yet she writes,  
Pursuite would be but vaine.

*La.* What Angell shall 25  
Blesse this vnworthy husband? he cannot thriue,  
Vnlesse her prayers, whom heauen delights to heare,  
And loues to grant, repreeue him from the wrath  
Of greatest Iustice.—Write, write, *Rynaldo*, 29  
To this vnworthy husband, of his wife!  
Let euerie word waigh heauie of her worth,  
That he does waigh too light! my greatest greefe,  
(Though little he do feele it,) set downe sharply! 33  
Dispatch the most conuenient messenger!  
When haply he shall heare that she is gone,  
He will returne; and hope I may, that shee,  
Hearing so much, will speede her foote againe, 37  
Led hither by pure loue: which of them both  
Is deereft to me, I haue no skill in fence  
To make distinction: (prouide this Messenger!)  
My heart is heauie, and mine age is weake;  
Greefe would haue teares, and sorrow bids me speake! 42  
[*Exeunt.*]

*Actus Tertius. Scena Quinta.*

*Florence. Without the Walls.*

*A Tucket asarre off. Enter an old Widdow of Florence, her daughter DIANA; VIOLENTA and MARIANA, with other Citizens.*

*Widdow.* Nay, come; for if they do approach the Citty,  
we shall loose all the fight!

*Diana.* They say, the *French* Count has done most honour-  
able seruice! 4

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31. *worth*] *worth* F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Wid.* It is reported that he has taken their great't Com-mander; and that with his owne hand he flew the Duke's brother. [*Tucket.*] We haue loft our labour; they are gone a contrarie way! harke! you may know by their Trumpets! 8

*Maria.* Come! lets returne againe, and suffice our felues with the report of it. ¶ Well, *Diana*, take heed of this *French Earle*! The honor of a Maide is her name; and no *Legacie* is so rich as honestie. 12

*Widdow.* [*to DIA.*] I haue told my neighbour how you haue beene folicited by a Gentleman, his Companion. 14

*Maria.* I know that knaue; (hang him!) one *Parolles*: a filthy Officer he is in those suggestions for the young Earle. Beware of them, *Diana*! their promises, entifements, oathes, tokens, and all these engines of lust, are not the things they [18 go vnder: many a maide hath beene seduced by them; and the miserie is, example, that so terrible shewes in the wracke of maiden-hood, cannot for all that disswade succession, but that they are limed with the twigges that threatens them! [22 I hope I neede not to aduise you further; but I hope your owne grace will keepe you where you are, though there were no further danger knowne but the modestie which is so lost.

*Dia.* You shall not neede to feare me. 26

*Wid.* I hope so.—Looke! here comes a pilgrim: I know she will lye at my house; thither they send one another: Ile question her.

*Enter HELLEN in pilgrim weeds.*

¶ God saue you, pilgrim! whether are bound? 30

*Hel.* To *S. Iaques la Grand*.

Where do the Palmers lodge, I do beseech you?

*Wid.* At the *S. Francis* heere, beside the Port.

*Hel.* Is this the way? 34

*Wid.* I, marrie, ist! [*A march afarre.*] ¶ Harke you! they come this way.

¶ If you will tarrie, holy Pilgrime,

But till the troopes come by,

I will conduct you where you shall be lodg'd; 38

29. *Enter . . . weeds.* Enter  
Hellen. F (after l. 26).

31. *le*] la F.

III. v. 5-38.]

35. *A march afarre.* F (after  
l. 34).

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

The rather, for I thinke I know your hostesse  
As ample as my selfe.

*Hel.* Is it your selfe?

*Wid.* If you shall please so, Pilgrime.

*Hel.* I thanke you, and will stay vpon your leifure. 42

*Wid.* You came, I thinke, from *France*?

*Hel.* I did so.

*Wid.* Heere you shall see a Counttriman of yours,  
That has done worthy seruice.

*Hel.* His name, I pray you.

*Dia.* The Count *Roffillion*: know you such a one? 46

*Hel.* But by the eare, that heares most nobly of him:  
His face I know not.

*Dia.* Whatsomere he is,

He's brauely taken heere. He stole from *France*,  
(As 'tis reported,) for the King had married him 50  
Against his liking. Thinke you it is so?

*Hel.* I, surely, meere the truth: I know his Lady.

*Dia.* There is a Gentleman, that serues the Count,  
Reports but coursfely of her.

*Hel.* What's his name? 54

*Dia.* Monsieur *Parrolles*.

*Hel.* Oh, I beleeeue with him,

In argument of praise, or to the worth  
Of the great Count himfelfe, she is too meane  
To haue her name repeated! all her deferuing 58  
Is a reseru'd honestie, and that  
I haue not heard examin'd.

*Dia.* Alas, poore Ladie!

'Tis a hard bondage, to become the wife  
Of a detestting Lord. 62

*Wid.* I write good creature: <sup>1</sup> wherefoere she is,  
Her hart waighes sadly: this yong maid might do her  
A shrewd turne, if she pleas'd.

*Hel.* How do you meane?

May be the amorous Count solicites her 66  
In the vnlawfull purpose?

*Wid.* He does, indeede;

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<sup>1</sup> ? *write* = declare, assent that she is. Cp. 'I write Man', II. iii.  
195, p. 35.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

And brokes with all that can, in such a suite,  
Corrupt the tender honour of a Maide:  
But she is arm'd for him, and keepes her guard 70  
In honestest defence.

*Mar.* The goddess forbid else!

*Wid.* So, now they come:

*Enter, with Drumme and Colours, Count ROSSILLION, PAR-  
ROLLES, and the whole Armie.*

That is *Anthonio*, the Dakes eldest sonne;

That, *Eſcalus*.

*Hel.* Which is the *Frenchman*?

*Dia.* Hee; 74

That with the plume: 'tis a most gallant fellow!

I would he lou'd his wife! if he were honest

He were much goodlier. Is't not a handfom Gentleman?

*Hel.* I like him well! 78

*Di.* 'Tis pittie he is not honest: yond's that fame knaue

That leades him to these places: were I his Ladie,

I would poison that vile Rascall!

*Hel.* Which is he?

*Dia.* That *Iacke-an-apes* with scarfes. Why is hee melan-  
cholly? 83

*Hel.* Perchance he's hurt i'th battaile!

(*Par.* Loofe our drum! Well!)

*Mar.* He's shrewdly vext at something. [*PAR. off-caps to  
them.*] Looke! he has spied vs. 87

*Wid.* Marrie, hang you!

*Mar.* And your curtesie, for a ring-carrier!

[*Exeunt* *BEB., PAR., and the Armie.*]

*Wid.* The troope is past. ¶ Come, pilgrim, I wil bring you

Where you shall host: Of inioyn'd penitents 91

There's foure or fiue, to great *S. Iaques* bound,

Alreadie at my house.

*Hel.* I humbly thanke you:

([*To* *MAR. & VIO.*]) Please it this Matron, and this gentle Maide,

72. *Enter . . . Armie.*] Drum  
and Colours. Enter . . . F (after  
*defence*, l. 71).

89. *Exeunt . . . Armie.*] Exit.  
F.

III. v. 68-94.]

*All's Well, that Ends Well*

To eate with vs to night, the charge and thanking 95  
Shall be for me :) ¶ and, to requite you further,  
I will bestow some precepts of this Virgin,<sup>1</sup>

Worthy the note.

*Both.* Wee'l take your offer kindly. [*Exeunt.* 98

*Actus Tertius. Scena Sexta.*

*Camp before Florence.*

*Enter* Count ROSSILLION; and the two Frenchmen,<sup>2</sup> as at first.

*Cap. E.* Nay, good my Lord, put him to't; let him haue his way!

*Cap. G.* If your Lordshippe finde him not a Hilding, hold me no more in your respect! 4

*Cap. E.* On my life, my Lord, a bubble!

*Ber.* Do you thinke I am so farre deceiued in him?

*Cap. E.* Beleeue it, my Lord, in mine owne direct knowledge, without any malice, but to speake of him as my [8 kinsman, hee's a most notable Coward, an infinite and endlesse Liar, an hourelly promise-breaker, the owner of no one good qualitie worthy your Lordships entertainment.

*Cap. G.* It were fit you knew him; leaft, reposing too [12 farre in his vertue, which he hath not, he might, at some great and trustie businesse, in a maine daunger, fayle you.

*Ber.* I would I knew in what particular action to try him.

*Cap. G.* None better then to let him fetch off his [16 drumme, which you heare him so confidently vndertake to do.

*C. E.* I, with a troop of *Florentines*, wil sodainly surprize him; such I will haue, whom, I am sure, he knowes not from theemie: wee will binde and hoodwinke him [20 so, that he shall suppose no other but that he is carried into the Leager of the aduersaries, when we bring him to our owne tents. Be but your Lordship present at his examination: if he do not, for the promise of his life, and in the highest [24 compulsion of base feare, offer to betray you, and deliuer all the intelligence in his power against you, and that with the

<sup>1</sup> *Virgin* = Diana. (*of* = on).

<sup>2</sup> Lords G. and E., now captains in the Florentine army.

1. *so'st* too't F.

23. *present* presnt F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

diuine forfeite of his foule vpon oath, neuer trust my iudgement in anie thing! 28

*Cap. G.* O, for the loue of laughter, let him fetch his drumme! he sayes he has a stratagem for't: when your Lordship sees the bottome of his succeffe in't, and to what mettle this counterfeyt lump of ore will be melted, if you giue [32 him not '*John Drummes* entertainment,' your inclining cannot be remoued. Heere he comes!

*Cap. E.* O, for the loue of laughter, hinder not the honor of his designe! let him fetch off his drumme in any hand! 36

*Enter PARROLLES.*

*Ber.* How now, Monsieur! This drumme sticks sorely in your disposition.

*Cap. G.* A pox on't! let it go; 'tis but a drumme!

*Par.* 'But a drumme!' 'Is't but a drumme!' A [40 drum so lost! There was excellent command! to charge in with our horse vpon our owne wings, and to rend our owne souldiers! 43

*Cap. G.* That was not to be blam'd, in the command of the seruice: it was a disauster of warre that *Cæsar* him selfe could not haue preuented, if he had beene there to command.

*Ber.* Well, wee cannot greatly condemne our succeffe: [47 some dishonor wee had in the losse of that drum; but it is not to be recouered.

*Par.* It might haue beene recouered!

*Ber.* It might, but it is not now. 51

*Par.* It is to be recouered: but that the merit of seruice is fildome attributed to the true and exact performer, I would haue that drumme or another, or *hic iacet*!

*Ber.* Why, if you haue a stomacke, to't, Monsieur! if [55 you thinke your mysterie in stratagem can bring this instrument of honour againe into his natieue quarter, be magnanimious in the enterprize, and go on! I wil grace the attempt for a worthy exploit: if you speede well in it, the Duke shall [59 both speake of it, and extend to you what further becomes his greatnesse, euen to the vtmost syllable of your worthinesse.

31. *his*] Rowe, this F.

32. *ore*] oare Theobald, ours F.

33. *inclining*] inclining F.

III. vi. 27-61.]

36. *Enter Parrolles.*] F (after

1. 34).

55. *to't*] too't F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* By the hand of a fouldier, I will vndertake it!

*Ber.* But you muſt not now ſlumber in it. 63

*Par.* Ile about it this euening: and I will preſently pen downe my dilemma's, encourage my ſelfe in my certaintie, put my ſelfe into my mortall preparation; and, by midnight, looke to heare further from me! 67

*Ber.* May I bee bold to acquaint his Grace you are gone about it?

*Par.* I know not what the ſucceſſe will be, my Lord; but the attempt I vow! 71

*Ber.* I know th'art valiant; and, to the poſſibility of thy fouldierſhip, will ſubſcribe for thee. Farewell!

*Par.* I loue not many words! [*Exit.* 74

*Cap. E.* No more then a fiſh loues water! Is not this a ſtrange fellow, my Lord, that ſo confidently ſeemes to vndertake this buſineſſe, which he knowes is not to be done; damnes himſelfe to do, & dares better be damnd then to doo't? 79

*Cap. G.* You do not know him, my Lord, as we doe: certaine it is, that he will ſteale himſelfe into a mans fauour, and for a weeke eſcape a great deale of diſcoueries; but, when you finde him out, you haue him euer after. 83

*Ber.* Why, do you thinke he will make no deede at all of this that ſo ſeriouslie hee dooes addreſſe himſelfe vnto?

*Cap. E.* None in the world; but returne with an inuention, and clap vpon you two or three probable lies: but we [87 haue almoſt imboſt<sup>1</sup> him; you ſhall ſee his fall to night; for, indeede, he is not for your Lordſhippes reſpect.

*Cap. G.* Weele make you ſome ſport with the Foxe ere we caſe<sup>2</sup> him! He was firſt ſmoak'd by the old Lord [91 *Lafeu*: when his diſguiſe and he is parted, tell me what a ſprat you ſhall finde him; which you ſhall ſee this verie night.

*Cap. E.* I muſt go looke my twigges: he ſhall be caught. 94

*Ber.* [to *Cap. G.*<sup>3</sup>] Your brother, he ſhall go along with me.

*Cap. G.* As't pleaſe your Lordſhip: Ile leaue you. [*Exit.*

<sup>1</sup> *imboſt* = ambuſcaded (Fr. *embusquer*, Ital. *imboscare*). — Schmidt.

<sup>2</sup> *caſe* = flay.

<sup>3</sup> to *Cap. G.*] om. F. But as

*Cap. E.* has to ſtay—he knows all about Diana in IV. iii, and *Cap. G.* knows nothing — *Ber.* muſt ſpeak here to *Cap. G.*

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Ber.* Now wil I lead you to the house, and shew you  
The Laffe I spoke of.

*Cap. E.* But you say she's honest? 98

*Ber.* That's all the fault: I spoke with hir but once,  
And found her wondrous cold; but I sent to her,  
By this same Coxcombe that we haue i'th winde,  
Tokens and Letters, which she did refend; 102  
And this is all I haue done. She's a faire creature!  
Will you go see her?

*Cap. E.* With all my heart, my Lord. [*Exeunt.*]

*Actus Tertius. Scena Septima.*

*Florence. The Widdows House.*

*Enter HELLEN, and Widdow.*

*Hel.* If you misdoubt me that I am not shee,  
I know not how I shall assure you further,  
But I shall loofe the grounds I worke vpon.

*Wid.* Though my estate be false, I was well borne, 4  
Nothing acquainted with these busineses;  
And would not put my reputation now  
In any staining act!

*Hel.* Nor would I with you!  
First, giue me trust, the Count he is my husband; 8  
And, what to your sworne counsaile I haue spoken,  
Is so, from word to word: and then you cannot,  
By the good ayde that I of you shall borrow,  
Erre in bestowing it.

*Wid.* I should beleeeue you; 12  
For you haue shew'd me that which well approues  
Y're great in fortune.

*Hel.* Take this purse of Gold,  
And let me buy your friendly helpe thus farre,  
Which I will ouer-pay, and pay againe 16  
When I haue found it. The Count he woes<sup>1</sup> your daughter,  
Layes downe his wanton sledge before her beautie,  
Resolues to carrie her: let her, in fine, consent,

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<sup>1</sup> woes = woos.

19. Resolues] F2. Resolue F.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

As wee'l direct her how 'tis best to beare it. 20  
Now his important blood will naught denie  
That shee'l demand: a ring the Countie weares,  
That downward hath succeeded in his house,  
From sonne to sonne, some foure or five discentes 24  
Since the first father wore it. This Ring he holds  
In most rich choice; yet, in his idle fire,  
To buy his will, it would not seeme too deere,  
How ere repented after.  
*Wid.* Now I see 28  
The bottome of your purpose.  
*Hel.* You see it lawfull, then: it is no more,  
But that your daughter, ere she seemes as wonne,  
Desires this Ring; appoints him an encounter; 32  
In fine, deliuers me to fill the time,  
Her selfe most chastly absent: after,  
To marry her, Ile adde three thousand Crownes  
To what is past already.  
*Wid.* I haue yeelded: 36  
Instruēt my daughter how she shall perseuer,  
That time and place, with this deceite so lawfull,  
May proue coherent. Euery night he comes  
With Musickes of all sorts, and songs compos'd 40  
To her vnworthinesse: It nothing steeds vs  
To chide him from our eeues; for he persists  
As if his life lay on't.  
*Hel.* Why, then, to night 43  
Let vs assay our plot; which, if it speed,  
Is wicked meaning in a lawfull deede, 45  
And lawfull meaning in a lawfull act;  
Where both not sinne, and yet a sinfull fact! 47  
But let's about it! [Exeunt.]

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39. comes] comes F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Actus Quartus. Scena Prima.*

*Before Florence. Without the Florentine Camp.*

*Enter one of the Frenchmen (Lord E.), with five or six other Souldiers in ambush.*

*Lord E.* He can come no other way but by this hedge corner. When you fallie vpon him, speake what terrible Language you will: though you vnderstand it not your selues, no matter; for we must not seeme to vnderstand [4 him, vnlesse some one among vs, whom wee must produce for an Interpreter.

1. *Sol.* Good Captaine, let me be th'Interpreter!

*Lor. E.* Art not acquainted with him? knowes he not thy voice? 9

1. *Sol.* No, sir, I warrant you.

*Lo. E.* But what linie wolſy haſt thou to ſpeake to vs againe? 12

1. *Sol.* E'n ſuch as you ſpeake to me.

*Lo. E.* He muſt thinke vs ſome band of ſtrangers i'th aduerſaries entertainment. Now he hath a ſmacke of all neighbouring Languages; therefore we muſt euery one [16 be a man of his owne fancie, not to know what we ſpeak one to another; ſo we ſeeme to know, is to know ſtraight our purpoſe: Choughs language, gabble enough, and good enough. As for you, interpreter, you muſt ſeeme very [20 politicke. But couch, hoa! heere hee comes! to beguile two houres in a ſleepe, and then to returne & ſwear the lies he forges. 23

*Enter PARROLLES. Clock ſtrikes ten.*

*Par.* Ten a clocke! Within theſe three houres 'twill be time enough to goe home. What ſhall I ſay I haue done? It muſt bee a very plauſiue inuention that carries it. They beginne to ſmoake mee; and diſgraces haue of late knock'd too often at my doore. I finde my tongue, is too foole- [28

1. *Lord E.*] 1. *Lord E. F*  
IV. i. 1-28.]

7. *Captaine*] *Captaine* (turned n) *F.*  
58

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

hardie; but my heart hath the feare of *Mars* before it, and of his creatures, not daring the reports of my tongue.

(*Lo. E.* [*aside*]) This is the first truth that ere thine own tongue was guiltie of!) 32

*Par.* What the diuell should moue mee to vndertake the recouerie of this drumme, being not ignorant of the impossibility, and knowing I had no such purpose? I must giue my selfe some hurts, and say I got them in exploit. Yet [36] slight ones will not carrie it: They will say, 'Came you off with so little?' And great ones I dare not giue. Wherefore, what's the instance? Tongue, I must put you into a Butter-womans mouth, and buy my selfe another of *Baiazeths* Mule, if you prattle mee into these perilles! 41

(*Lo. E.* Is it possible he should know what hee is, and be that he is?)

*Par.* I would the cutting of my garments wold serue the turne, or the breaking of my *Spani/h* sword! 45

(*Lo. E.* We cannot afford you so!)

*Par.* Or the baring of my beard; and to say, it was in stratagem! 48

(*Lo. E.* 'Twould not do!)

*Par.* Or to drowne my cloathes, and say I was stript.

(*Lo. E.* Hardly serue!)

*Par.* Though I swore I leapt from the window of the Citadell . . . 53

(*Lo. E.* How deepe?)

*Par.* Thirty fadome.

(*Lo. E.* Three great oathes would scarce make that be beleueed!) 57

*Par.* I would I had any drumme of the enemies: I would sweare I recouer'd it!

(*Lo. E.* You shall heare one anon!)

*Par.* A drumme now of the enemies, . . . 60

*Alarum within.*

*Lo. E.* *Throca mouousfus, cargo! cargo! cargo!*

*All.* *Cargo! cargo! cargo! villianda par corbo, cargo!*

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* O, ranfome, ranfome! do not hide mine eyes. 64  
*[They seize and blindfold him.]*

*Inter.* [*1 Sol.*] *Boskos thromuldo boskos!*

*Par.* I know you are the *Muskos* Regiment;  
 And I shall loose my life for want of language:  
 If there be heere *German*, or *Dane*, *Low Dutch*, 68  
*Italian*, or *French*, let him speake to me; Ile  
 Discouer that which shal vndo the *Florentine*.

*Int.* *Boskos vauvado.* ¶ I vnderstand thee, & can ipeake  
 thy tongue. ¶ *Kerelybonto.* ¶ Sir, betake thee to thy faith,  
 for feunteene ponyards are at thy bofome! 73

*Par.* Oh!

*Inter.* Oh, pray, pray, pray! ¶ *Manka reuania dulce?*

*Lo. E.* *Oscorbidulchos voliuorco.* 76

*Int.* The Generall is content to spare thee yet;  
 And, hoodwinkt as thou art, will leade thee on  
 To gather from thee: Haply thou mayst informe  
 Something to saue thy life.

*Par.* O, let me liue! 80  
 And all the secrets of our campe Ile shew,  
 Their force, their purposes; Nay, Ile speake that  
 Which you will wonder at.

*Inter.* But wilt thou faithfully?

*Par.* If I do not, damne me! 84

*Inter.* ¶ *Acordo linta?*

¶ Come on! thou art granted space.

*[Exit, with PAROLLES guarded. A short Alarum within.]*

*L.E.* [*to 2 Sol.*] Go tell the Count *Roffillion*, and my  
 brother,

We haue caught the woodcocke, and will keepe him mufled  
 Till we do heare from them.

*2 Sol.* Captaine, I will. 89

*L.E.* A will betray vs all vnto our felues:  
 Informe on<sup>1</sup> that.

*2 Sol.* So I will, fir.

*L.E.* Till then Ile keepe him darke, and safely lockt. 92  
*[Exeunt.]*

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86. *art*] are F.

<sup>1</sup> *on* = of.

92. *Exeunt.*] Exit. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Actus Quartus. Scena Secunda.*

*Florence. The Widdows House.*

*Enter BERTRAM, and the Maide called DIANA.*

*Ber.* They told me that your name was *Fontybell*. 1

*Dia.* No, my good Lord, *Diana*.

*Ber.* Titled Goddesse!

And worth it, with addition! But, faire soule,  
In your fine frame, bath loue no qualitie? 4

If the quicke fire of youth light not your minde,  
You are no Maiden, but a monument:  
When you are dead, you should be such a one  
As you are now, for you are cold and sterne; 8

And now you should be as your mother was  
When your sweet selfe was got!

*Dia.* She then was honest.

*Ber.* So should you be.

*Dia.* No:

My mother did but dutie; such (my Lord)  
As you owe to your wife! 12

*Ber.* No more a'that!

I prethee, do not striue against my vowes:  
I was compell'd to her; but I loue thee  
By Loues owne sweet constraint, and will for euer 16  
Do thee all rights of seruice!

*Dia.* I, so you serue vs  
Till we serue you; But when you haue our Roses,  
You barely leaue our thornes to pricke our felues,  
And mocke vs with our barenesse!

*Ber.* How haue I sworne! 20

*Dia.* Tis not the many oathes that makes the truth;  
But the plaine single vow, that is vow'd true.  
What is not holie, that we sweare not by,  
But take the High't to witnesse: then, pray you, tell me, 24  
If I should sweare by *Ioues*<sup>1</sup> great attributes,  
I lou'd you deerely, would you beleue my oathes,

<sup>1</sup> The players no doubt altered | Act 3 Jac. I. cap. 21 (1605-6).  
*Gods* to *Ioues* in consequence of the | See note at end of *Twelfth Night*.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

When I did loue you ill? This ha's no holding,  
To sweare by him whom I proteſt to loue, 28  
That I will worke againſt him: therefore your oathes  
Are words and poore conditions; but vnſeal'd:  
At leſt, in my opinion.

*Ber.* Change it, change it!  
Be not ſo holy cruell! Loue is holie; 32  
And my integritie ne're knew the craft  
That you do charge men with! Stand no more off,  
But giue thy ſelfe vnto my ſicke deſires, 35  
Who then recouers! Say, thou art mine, and euer  
My loue, as it beginnes, ſhall ſo perſeuer! 37

*Dia.* I ſee that men make ropes in ſuch a ſcarre,  
That wee'l forſake our ſelues. Giue me that Ring!

*Ber.* Ile lend it thee, my deere; but haue no power 40  
To giue it from me.

*Dia.* Will you not, my Lord?

*Ber.* It is an honour longing to our houſe,  
Bequeath'd downe from manie Anceſtors;  
Which were the greateſt obloquie i'th world 44  
In me to looſe.

*Dian.* Mine Honor's ſuch a Ring:  
My chaſtitie's the Iewell of our houſe,  
' Bequeath'd downe from many Anceſtors;  
Which were the greateſt obloquie i'th world, 48  
In mee to looſe.' Thus your owne proper wiſedome  
Brings in the Champion, Honor, on my part,  
Againſt your vaine aſſault.

*Ber.* Heere, take my Ring!  
My houſe, mine honor, yea, my life, be thine, 52  
And Ile be bid by thee!

*Dia.* When midnight comes, knocke at my chamber window:  
Ile order take, my mother ſhall not heare.  
Now will I charge you in the band of truth, 56  
When you haue conquer'd my yet maiden-bed,  
Remaine there but an houre, nor ſpeake to mee!  
My reaſons are moſt ſtrong; and you ſhall know them,  
When backe againe this Ring ſhall be deliuer'd: 60

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38. *ropes*] rope's F. See note at end of Play.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

And on your finger, in the night, Ile put  
Another Ring, that, what in time proceeds,  
May token to the future, our past deeds. 63  
Adieu till then! then, faile not! You haue wonne  
A wife of me, though there my hope be done. 65  
Ber. A heauen on earth I haue won by wooing thee! *[Exit.*  
Di. For which, liue long to thank both heauen & me! 67  
You may so in the end.  
My mother told me iust how he would woo,  
As if she fate in's heart; She sayes, all men  
Haue the like oathes: He had s'worne to marrie me  
When his wife's dead; therfore Ile lye with him 72  
When I am buried. Since *Frenchmen* are so braide,<sup>1</sup>  
Marry that will, I liue and die a Maid: 74  
Onely, in this disguise, I think't no sinne,  
To cosen him that would vniustly winne! *[Exit.* 76

*Actus Quartus. Scena Tertia.*

*The Florentine Camp.*

*Enter the two French Captaines, and some two or three Souldiours.*

Cap. G. You haue not giuen him his mothers letter? 1

Cap. E. I haue deliu'ed it an houre since: there is something in't that stings his nature; for, on the reading it, he chang'd almost into another man. 4

Cap. G. He has much worthy blame laid vpon him, for shaking off so good a wife, and so sweet a Lady.

Cap. E. Especially, hee hath incurred the euerlasting displeasure of the King, who had euen tun'd his bounty to sing happinesse to him. I will tell you a thing, but you shall let it dwell darkly with you. 10

Cap. G. When you haue spoken it, 'tis dead, and I am the graue of it. 12

Cap. E. Hee hath peruerted a young Gentlewoman heere in *Florence*, of a most chaste renown; & this night he fleshes his will in the spoyle of her honour: hee hath giuen her his monumentall<sup>2</sup> Ring, and thinkes himselfe made in the vnchaste composition. 17

71. *had*] F. hath Capell.

<sup>1</sup> *braide* = deceitful.

<sup>2</sup> *monumentall* = ancestral.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Cap. G.* Now, God delay our rebellion! as we are our selues, what things are we! 19

*Cap. E.* Meerely our owne traitours. And as in the common courſe of all treaſons, we ſtill ſee them reueale themſelues, till they attaine to their abhorr'd ends, ſo he, that in this action contriues againſt his owne Nobility, in his proper ſtreame, overflowes himſelfe. 24

*Cap. G.* Is it not meant damnable<sup>1</sup> in vs, to be Trumpeters of our vnlawfull intents! We ſhall not then haue his company to night? 27

*Cap. E.* Not till after midnight; for hee is dieted to his houre.

*Cap. G.* That approaches apace: I would gladly haue him ſee his company anathomiz'd, that hee might take a meaſure of his owne iudgements, wherein ſo curiouſly he had ſet this counterfeit. 33

*Cap. E.* We will not meddle with him till he come; for his preſence muſt be the whip of the other.

*Cap. G.* In the meane time, what heare you of theſe Warres? 37

*Cap. E.* I heare there is an ouerture of peace.

*Cap. G.* Nay, I aſſure you, a peace concluded!

*Cap. E.* What will Count *Reſſillion* do then? Will he trauaile higher, or returne againe into *France*? 41

*Cap. G.* I perceiue, by this demand, you are not altogether of his counsell.

*Cap. E.* Let it be forbid, fir! ſo ſhould I bee a great deale of his act. 45

*Cap. G.* Sir, his wife, ſome two months ſince, fledde from his houſe; her pretence<sup>2</sup> is a pilgrimage to Saint *Iaques le Grand*; which holy vndertaking, with moſt auſtere ſanctimonie, ſhe accompliſht; and, there reſiding, the tenderneſſe of her Nature became as a prey to her greefe: in fine, made a groane of her laſt breath, & now ſhe ſings in heauen. 51

*Cap. E.* How is this iuſtified?

*Cap. G.* The ſtronger part of it by her owne Letters, which

<sup>1</sup> *damnable* = damnably. Does it not ſhow a damnable meaning or diſpoſition in us?

<sup>31.</sup> *meaſure*] meaſure F.

IV. iii. 18-53.]

<sup>2</sup> *Pretence*: f. A pretence; purpoſe, deſignement, proiect, intent—Cotgrave.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

makes her storie true, euen to the poynt of her death: her death it selfe (which could not be her office to say is come) was faithfully confirm'd by the Rector of the place. 56

*Cap. E.* Hath the Count all this intelligence?

*Cap. G.* I, and the particular confirmations, point from point, to the full arming of the veritie. 59

*Cap. E.* I am heartily forrie that hee'l bee gladde of this!

*Cap. G.* How mightily, sometimes, we make vs comforts of our losses! 62

*Cap. E.* And how mightily, some other times, wee drowne our gaine in teares! The great dignitie, that his valour hath here acquir'd for him, shall at home be encountered with a shame as ample. 66

*Cap. G.* The webbe of our life is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together: our vertues would bee proud, if our faults whipt them not; and our crimes would dispaire, if they were not cherish'd by our vertues. 70

*Enter a Messenger.*

¶ How now! Where's your mafter?

*Ser. (Mess.)* He met the Duke in the street, fir, of whom hee hath taken a solemne leaue: his Lordshippe will next morning for *France*. The Duke hath offered him Letters of commendations to the King. [Exit. 75]

*Cap. E.* They shall bee no more then needfull there, if they were more then they can commend. They cannot be too sweete for the Kings tartnesse. Heere's his Lordship now.

*Enter Count ROSSILLION.*

¶ How now, my Lord! i't not after midnight? 79

*Ber.* I haue to night dispatch'd fixeene businesse, a moneths length a peece, by an abstract of successe: I haue congied with the Duke; done my adieu with his neereft; buried a wife; mourn'd for her; writ to my Ladie mother [83 I am returning; entertain'd my Conuoy; &, betweene these maine parcels of dispatch, effected many nicer needs: the last was the greatest, but that I haue not ended yet. 86

77. *Ber.* before 'They cannot,' | l. 77).  
&c., in F.

78. *Enter . . .*] F (after commend,

85. *effected*] F3. affected F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Cap. E.* If the businesse bee of any difficulty, and this morning your departure hence, it requires hast of your Lordship. 89

*Ber.* I meane, the businesse is not ended, as fearing to heare of it hereafter. But shall we haue this dialogue betweene the Foole and the Soldiour? Come! bring forth this counterfet module! has deceiu'd mee, like a double-meaning Prophefier.

*Cap. E.* Bring him forth! [*Exeunt Soldiers.*] ¶ Ha's sate i'th stockes all night, poore gallant knaue! 95

*Ber.* No matter; his heeles haue deseru'd it, in vsurping his spurs so long. How does he carry himselfe?

*Cap. E.* I haue told your Lordship alreadie: the stockes carrie him. But, to answer you as you would be vnderstood; [99 hee weepes like a wench that had shed her milke: he hath confest himselfe to *Morgan*, whom hee supposes to be a Friar, from the time of his remembrance to this very instant disafter of his setting i'th stockes: and what thinke you he hath confest?

*Ber.* Nothing of me, ha's a? 104

*Cap. E.* His confession is taken, and it shall bee read to his face: if your Lordshippe be in't, as I beleue you are, you must haue the patience to heare it. 107

*Enter PAROLLES muffeld & guarded, with his Interpreter*  
(1 Sol.).

(*Ber.* [*aside*]) A plague vpon him! muffeld! he can say nothing of me: hush, hush!

*Cap. G.* Hoodman comes!) ¶ *Portotartarossa!* 110

*Inter.* (1 Sol.) He calles for the tortures: what will you say without em?

*Par.* I will confesse what I know without constraint; if ye pinch me like a Pasty, I can say no more. 114

*Int.* *Bosko Chimurcho?*

*Cap.* *Boblibindo chicurmurco!*

*Int.* You are a mercifull Generall.—Our Generall bids you answer to what I shall aske you out of a Note. 118

*Par.* And truly, as I hope to liue.

*Int.* [*reads*] 'First demand of him, how many horse the Duke is strong.' What say you to that? 121

*Par.* Fiue or fixe thousand; but very weake and vnseruiceable: the troopes are all scattered, and the Commanders verie  
IV. iii. 87-123.] 66

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

poore rogues, vpon my reputation and credit, and as I hope to liue. 125

*Int.* Shall I fet downe your answer so?

*Par.* Do! Ile take the Sacrament on't, how & which way you will. 128

(*Ber.* All's one to him. What a past-sauing slaue is this!

*Cap. G.* Y'are deceiu'd, my Lord: this is Mounseieur *Parrolles*, the gallant 'militarist,' (that was his owne phraſe,) that had the whole theoricke of warre in the knot of his scarfe, and the practise in the chape of his dagger. 133

*Cap. E.* I will neuer trust a man againe, for keeping his sword cleane; nor beleue he can haue euerie thing in him, by wearing his apparrell neatly.)

*Int.* Well, that's fet downe. 137

*Par.* Fieue or fix thousand horſe, I ſed, (I will ſay true,) or thereabouts, ſet downe, for Ile ſpeake truth.

(*Cap. G.* He's very neere the truth in this. 140

*Ber.* But I con him no thanks for't, in the nature he deliuers it.)

*Par.* 'Poore rogues,' I pray you, ſay!

*Int.* Well, that's fet downe. 144

*Par.* I humbly thanke you, ſir: a truth's a truth, the Rogues are maruailous poore.

*Interp.* [*reads*] 'Demaund of him, of what ſtrength they are a foot.' What ſay you to that? 148

*Par.* By my troth, ſir, if I were to liue this preſent houre, I will tell true! Let me ſee: *Spurio*, a hundred & fiftie; *Sebastian*, ſo many; *Corambus*, ſo many; *Iaquus*, ſo many; *Guiltian*, *Cofmo*, *Lodowicke*, and *Gratij*, two hundred [152 fiftie each; Mine owne Company, *Chitopher*, *Vaumont*, *Bentij*, two hundred fiftie each:—ſo that the muſter file, rotten and ſound, vpon my life, amounts not to fiſteene thousand pole; halfe of the which dare not ſhake the ſnow from off their Caſſockes, leaſt they ſhake themſelues to peeces. 157

(*Ber.* What ſhall be done to him?

*Cap. G.* Nothing, but let him haue thanks! ¶ Demand of him my condition, and what credite I haue with the Duke.)

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129. *Ber.* All's one to him. What? | 152, 153. *Guiltian*] F. Julian  
Capell. all's one to him. *Ber.* | (written *Giulian*) Walker conj.  
What F. | *Chitopher* = Christopher.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Int.* Well, that's set downe. [*Reads*] 'You shall demanda of him, whether one Captaine *Dumaine* bee i'th Campe, a [162 *Frenchman*; what his reputation is with the Duke; what his valour, honestie, and expertnesse in warres; or whether he thinkes it were not possible, with well-waighing fumes of gold, to corrupt him to a reuolt.' What say you to this? What do you know of it? 167

*Par.* I beseech you, let me answer to the particular of the intergatories! Demand them singly!

*Int.* Do you know this Captaine *Dumaine*? 170

*Par.* I know him: a was a Botchers Prentize in *Paris*, from whence he was whipt for getting the Shrieues fool with childe; a dumbe innocent that could not say him nay.

[*Cap. G. (DUMAINE) offers to strike PAR.*

(*Ber.* Nay, by your leaue, hold your hands! though I know his braines are forfeite to the next tile that fals.) 175

*Int.* Well, is this Captaine in the Duke of *Florences* campe?

*Par.* Vpon my knowledge, he is, and lowfie.

(*Cap. G. [to BER.]* Nay, looke not so vpon me; we shall heare of your Lordship anon!) 179

*Int.* What is his reputation with the Duke?

*Par.* The Duke knowes him for no other but a poore Officer of mine; and writ to mee this other day to turne him out a'th band: I thinke I haue his Letter in my pocket. 183

*Int.* Marry, we'll search!

*Par.* In good sadnesse, I do not know; either it is there, or it is vpon a file, with the Dukes other Letters, in my Tent. 187

*Int.* Heere 'tis! heere's a paper! shall I reade it to you?

*Par.* I do not know if it be it or no.

(*Ber.* Our Interpreter do's it well.

*Cap. G.* Excellently!) 191

*Int.* [*reads*] 'Dian! the Count's a foole, and full of gold,'...

*Par.* That is not the Dukes letter, fir; that is an aduertisement to a proper maide in *Florence*, one *Diana*, to take heede of the allurement of one Count *Roffillion*, a foolish idle boy, but, for all that, very ruttish: I pray you, fir, put it vp againe! 197

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Int.* Nay! Ile reade it first, by your fauour. 198

*Par.* My meaning in't (I protest!) was very honest in the behalfe of the maid; for I knew the young Count to be a dangerous and lasciuious boy, who is a whale to Virginity, and deuours vp all the fry it finds.

(*Ber.* Damnable both-fides rogue!) 203

*Int. reads Let.* 'When he sweares oathes, bid him drop gold, and take it!

*After he scores, he neuer payes the score:*

*Halfe won is match well made; match, and well make it!*

*He nere payes after-debts; take it before;* 207

*And say a souldier (Dian) told thee this:*

*"Men are to mell with; boyes are not to kis!"* 209

*For count of this, the Count's a Foole, (I know it,)*

*Who payes before, but not when he does owe it!* 211

*Thine, as he vow'd to thee in thine eare,*

*PAROLLES.'*

(*Ber.* He shall be whipt through the Armie with this rime in's forehead!) 215

*Cap. E.* This is your deuoted friend, fir! the manifold Linguist, and the army-potent souldier!

*Ber.* I could endure any thing before but a Cat, and now he's a Cat to me!) 219

*Int.* I perceiue, fir, by our Generals lookes, wee shall be faine to hang you. 221

*Par.* My life, fir, in any case! Not that I am afraide to dye; but that, my offences beeing many, I would repent out the remainder of Nature! Let me liue, fir, in a dungeon, i'th stockes, or any where, so I may liue! 225

*Int.* Wee'le see what may bee done, so you confesse freely; therefore, once more to this Captaine *Dumaine!* you haue answer'd to his reputation with the Duke, and to his valour: What is his honestie? 229

*Par.* He will steale, fir, an Egge out of a Cloister: for rapes and rauishments, he paralels *Nessus.* Hee professes not keeping of oaths; in breaking em he is stronger then *Hercules.* He will lye, fir, with such volubilitie, that you would [233

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

thinke truth were a foole: drunkenneffe is his beft vertue, for he will be fwine-drunke; and in his fleep he does little harme, faue to his bed-cloathes about him; but they know his conditions, and lay him in ftraw. I haue but little [237 more to fay, fir, of his honefty: he ha's euerie thing that an honeft man fhould not haue; what an honeft man fhould haue, he has nothing.

(*Cap. G.* I begin to loue him for this. 241

*Ber.* For this defcription of thine honeftie? A pox vpon him, for me! he's more and more a Cat.)

*Int.* What fay you to his expertneffe in warre? 244

*Par.* Faith, fir, ha's led the drumme before the *English* Tragedians: to belye him, I will not; and more of his fouldier-ship I know not; except, in that Country, he had the honour to be the Officer at a place there called *Mile-end*, to inſtruct for the doubling of files: I would doe the man what honour I can, but of this I am not certaine. 250

(*Cap. G.* He hath out-villain'd villanie ſo farre, that the raritie redeemes him.

*Ber.* A pox on him! he's a Cat ſtill.) 253

*Int.* His qualities being at this poore price, I neede not to aſke you, if Gold will corrupt him to reuolt. 255

*Par.* Sir, for a Cardceue he will ſell the fee-fimple of his ſaluation, the inheritance of it; and cut th'intaille from all remainders, and a perpetuall ſucceſſion for it perpetually!

*Int.* What's his Brother, the other Captain *Dumain*? 259

(*Cap. E.* Why do's he aſke him of me?)

*Int.* What's he? 261

*Par.* E'ne a Crow a'th ſame neſt; not altogether ſo great as the firſt in goodneſſe, but greater, a great deale, in euill. He excels his Brother for a coward, yet his Brother is reputed one of the beſt that is: in a retreat hee outrunnes any Lackey; marrie, in comming on, hee ha's the Crampe. 266

*Int.* If your life be ſaued, will you vndertake to betray the *Florentine*?

*Par.* I, and the Captaine of his horſe, Count *Roſſillion*. 269

*Int.* Ile whiſper with the Generall, and knowe his pleaſure.

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256. *Cardceue*] F2. Cardceue F. | Quardecue; a ſiluer peece of  
'*Quart d'eſcu.* A Teſton, or | coyne worth 18d. ſterl.'—Cotgrave.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Par.* [*aside*] Ile no more drumming! a plague of all drummes! Onely to seeme to deserue well, and to beguile the supposition of that lasciuious yong boy the Count, haue I run into this danger: yet who would haue suspected an ambush where I was taken? 275

*Int.* There is no remedy, sir, but you must dye! the Generall sayes, you, that haue so traitorously discouerd the secrets of your army, and made such pestiferous reports of men very nobly held, can serue the world for no honest [279] vs; therefore you must dye. Come, headesman, off with his head!

*Par.* O Lord, sir, let me liue! or let me see my death!

*Int.* That shall you, and take your leaue of all your friends!

[*Vnmuffling him.*]

So, looke about you! know you any heere? 284

*Count (Ber.)* Good morrow, noble Captaine!

*Lo. E.* God blesse you, Captaine *Parolles*!

*Cap. G.* God saue you, noble Captaine! 287

*Lo. E.* Captain, what greeting will you to my Lord *Lafew*?  
I am for *France*. 289

*Cap. G.* Good Captaine, will you giue me a Copy of the sonnet you writ to *Diana* in behalfe of the Count *Rossillion*? and I were not a verie Coward, I'de compell it of you: but far you well! [*Exeunt all but Int. & PAR.* 293]

*Int.* You are vndone, Captaine! all but your scarfe; that has a knot on't yet.

*Par.* Who cannot be crush'd with a plot? 296

*Inter.* If you could finde out a Countrie where but women were that had receiued so much shame, you might begin an impudent Nation. Fare yee well, sir! I am for *France* too: we shall speake of you there. [*Exit.* 300]

*Par.* Yet am I thankfull: if my heart were great,  
'Twould burst at this! 'Captaine' Ile be no more;  
But I will eate, and drinke, and sleepe as soft  
As Captaine shall! Simply the thing I am 304  
Shall make me liue! Who knowes himselfe a braggart,  
Let him feare this; for it will come to passe,  
That euery braggart shall be found an Ass! 307  
Rust sword! coole blushes! and, *Parrollës*, liue  
Safest in shame! being fool'd, by fool'rie thriue!

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

There's place and meanes for every man alieu.  
He after them!

310  
[Exit.

*Actus Quartus. Scena Quarta.*

*Florence. The Widdows House.*

*Enter HELLEN, Widdow, and DIANA.*

*Hel.* That you may well perceiue I haue not wrong'd you,  
One of the greatest in the Christian world  
Shall be my suretie; 'fore whose throne 'tis needfull,  
Ere I can perfect mine intents, to kneele: 4  
Time was, I did him a desired office,  
Deere almost as his life; which gratitude,  
Through flintie *Tartars* bosome would peepe forth,  
And answer, 'thanks.' I duly am inform'd, 8  
His Grace is at *Marcellæ*,<sup>1</sup> to which place  
We haue conuenient conuoy. You must know  
I am supposed dead: the Army breaking,  
My husband hies him home; where, heauen ayding, 12  
And by the leaue of my good Lord the King,  
Wee'l be before our welcome.

*Wid.* Gentle Madam,  
You neuer had a seruant to whose trust  
Your busines was more welcome.

*Hel.* Nor you, Mistris, 16  
Euer a friend whose thoughts more truly labour  
To recompence your loue: Doubt not but heauen  
Hath brought me vp to be your daughters dower,  
As it hath fated her to be my motiue, 20  
And helper to a husband. (But, O strange men,  
That can such sweet vse make of what they hate,  
When sawcie trusting of the coffin'd thoughts 23  
Defiles the pitchy night! so lust doth play

---

3. 'fore] for F.  
<sup>1</sup> *Marcellæ* = Marseilles. Cp. | i. 367, vol. ii. p. 43.  
 IV. v. 74, p. 75; and *Shrew*, II. | 16. you] F4. your F.  
 [IV. iii. 310-311; iv. 1-24.] 72



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

With what it loathes, for that which is away.) 25  
But more of this heereafter. ¶ You, *Diana*,  
Vnder my poore instructions, yet must suffer  
Something in my behalfe.  
*Dia.* Let death and honestie  
Go with your impositions, I am yours, 29  
Vpon your will to suffer!  
*Hel.* Yet, I pray you  
But with the word; the time will bring on summer,  
When Briars shall haue leaues as well as thornes,  
And be as sweet as sharpe! We must away; 33  
Our Wagon is prepar'd, and Time reuiues vs:  
*ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!* still 'the Fine's  
the Crowne;'  
What ere the course, the end is the renowne. 36

*Actus Quartus. Scena Quinta.*

*Rossillon. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Clowne, old Lady (COUNTESS), and LAFEW.*

*Laf.* No, no, no! your sonne was misled with a snipt-  
taffata fellow there, whose villanous saffron wold haue made  
all the vnbak'd and dowy youth of a nation in his colour:  
your daughter-in-law had beene aliue at this houre, and [4  
your sonne heere at home, more aduanc'd by the King, then  
by that red-tail'd Humble Bee I speak of.

*La. (Countess.)* I would I had not knowne him! it was the  
death of the most vertuous gentlewoman, that euer Nature [8  
had praise for creating. If she had partaken of my flesh, and  
cost mee the deereft groanes of a mother, I could not haue  
owed her a more rooted loue. 11

*Laf.* Twas a good Lady, 'twas a good Lady! Wee may  
picke a thousand fallets ere wee light on such another hearbe.

*Cl.* Indeed, sir, she was the sweete Margerom of the fallet,  
or, rather, the hearbe of grace. 15

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9. *partaken*] pertaken F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Laf.* They are not hearbes, you knaue; they are nose-hearbes.

*Cloune.* I am no great *Nabuchadnezar*, fir; I haue not much skill in grace.<sup>1</sup> 19

*Laf.* Whether doest thou profeffe thy selfe, a knaue or a foole?

*Clo.* A foole, fir, at a womans seruice, and a knaue at a mans. 23

*Laf.* Your distinction?

*Clo.* I would coufen the man of his wife, and do his seruice.

*Laf.* So you were a knaue at 'his seruice,' indeed. 27

*Clo.* And I would giue his wife my bauble, fir, to doe her seruice.

*Laf.* I will subscribe for thee, thou art both knaue and foole. 31

*Clo.* At your seruice.

*Laf.* No, no, no!

*Clo.* Why, fir, if I cannot serue you, I can serue as great a prince as you are. 35

*Laf.* Whose that? a *Frenchman*?

*Clo.* Faith, fir, a has an *English* maine;<sup>2</sup> but his finomie is more hotter in *France* then there. 38

*Laf.* What prince is that?

*Clo.* The Blacke Prince, fir; *alias*, the Prince of Darkeness; *alias*, the Dinell. 41

*Laf.* Hold thee, there's my purse! I giue thee not this to suggest thee from thy master thou talk'ft of; serue him still!

*Clo.* I am a woodland fellow, fir, that alwaies loued a great fire; and the master I speak of, euer keeps a good fire. But, sure, he is the Prince of the world; let his Nobilitie remaine in's Court. I am for the house with the narrow gate, [47 which I take to be too little for pompe to enter: some that humble themselues may, but the manie will be too chill and tender; and they'll bee for the flowrie way that leads to the broad gate, and the great fire. 51

*Laf.* Go thy waies! I begin to bee awearie of thee; and I tell thee so before, because I would not fall out with thee.

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<sup>1</sup> *grace* = both 'grass' and 'grace.'    <sup>2</sup> *maine* = mane.    43. of] off F.  
IV. v. 16-53.] 74

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Go thy wayes! let my horses be wel look'd to, without any trickes.

*Clo.* If I put 'any trickes' vpon em, fir, they shall bee lades 'trickes;' which are their owne right by the law of Nature.

[*Exit.*

*Laf.* A shrewd knaue and an vnhappie!<sup>1</sup>

*Lady.* So a is! My Lord that's gone made himselfe much sport out of him: by his authoritie hee remaines heere, which he thinkes is a pattent for his sawcinesse; and, indeede, he has no pace, but runnes where he will.

*Laf.* I like him well; 'tis not amisse. And I was about to tell you, since I heard of the good Ladies death, and that my Lord your sonne was vpon his returne home, I moued the King my master to speake in the behalfe of my [66 daughter; which, in the minoritie of them both, his Maiestie, out of a selfe-gracious remembrance, did first propose: his Highnesse hath promis'd me to doe it: and, to stoppe vp the displeasure he hath conceiued against your sonne, there is no fitter matter. How do's your Ladyship like it?

*La.* With verie much content, my Lord; and I wish it happily effected.

*Laf.* His Highnesse comes post from *Marcellus*,<sup>2</sup> of as able bodie as when he number'd thirty: a will be heere to morrow, or I am deceiu'd by him that in such intelligence hath seldome fail'd.

*La.* It reioyces me, that I hope I shall see him ere I die. I haue letters that my sonne will be heere to night: I shall beseech your Lordship to remaine with mee, till they meete together.

*Laf.* Madam, I was thinking with what manners I might safely be admitted.

*Lad.* You neede but pleade your honourable priuiledge.

*Laf.* Ladie, of that I haue made a bold charter; but, I thanke my God, it holds yet.

*Re-enter Clowne.*

*Clo.* O Madam, yonder's my Lord your sonne with a patch of veluet on's face: whether there bee a scar vnder't or no,

<sup>1</sup> *unhappie* = roguish.

<sup>54.</sup> *to*] too F.

<sup>2</sup> *Marseilles*. See note on IV.

| iv. 9, p. 72.

| 78. *It*] Ir F.

[IV. v. 54-88.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

the Veluet knowes; but 'tis a goodly patch of Veluet: his left cheek is a cheek of two pile and a halfe, but his right cheek is worne bare. 91

*Laf.* A scarre nobly got, or a noble scarre, is a good liu rie of honor; so, belike, is that.

*Clo.* But it is your carbinado'd face. 94

*Laf.* Let vs go see your sonne, I pray you: I long to talke with the yong, noble souldier.

*Clowne.* 'Faith, there's a dozen of em, with delicate fine hats, and most courteous feathers, which bow the head, and nod at euerie man. [Exeunt. 99

*Actus Quintus. Scena Prima.*

*Marselles. A Street.*

*Enter HELLEN, Widdow, and DIANA, with two Attendants.*

*Hel.* But this exceeding posting, day and night, 1

Muft wear your spirits low; we cannot helpe it:

But since you haue made the daies and nights as one.

To weare your gentle limbes in my affayres, 4

Be bold you do so grow in my requitall,

As nothing can vnröote you.—In happie time!

*Enter a gentle Astringer.<sup>1</sup>*

This man may helpe me to his Maiesties eare,

If he would spend his power. ¶ God saue you, sir! 8

*Gent.* And you!

*Hel.* Sir, I haue seene you in the Court of France.

*Gent.* I haue beene sometimes there.

*Hel.* I do presume, sir, that you are not false 12

From the report that goes vpon your goodnesse;

And therefore, goaded with most sharpe occasions,

Which lay nice manners by, I put you to

The vse of your owne vertues, for the which 16

I shall continue thankefull.

*Gent.*

What's your will?

*Hel.* That it will please you

---

<sup>1</sup> *Astringer* = falconer.

8. *sir*] *fit* F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

To giue this poore petition to the King;  
[Glues Ast. a Letter.  
And yde me, with that store of power you haue, 20  
To come into his prefence.  
Gen. The King's not heere!  
Hel. Not heere, fir?  
Gen. Not, indeed:  
He hence remou'd laft night, and with more haft  
Then is his vse.  
Wid. Lord, how we loofe our paines! 24  
Hel. *ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL*, yet,  
Though time feeme fo aduerfe, and meanes vnfit. 26  
¶ I do befeech you, whither is he gone?  
Gent. Marrie, as I take it, to *Roffillon*; 28  
Whither I am going.  
Hel. I do befeech you, fir,  
Since you are like to fee the King before me,  
Commend the paper to his gracious hand;  
Which, I prefume, fhall render you no blame, 32  
But rather make you thanke your paines for it:  
I will come after you with what good fpeede  
Our meanes will make vs meanes.  
Gent. This Ile do for you.  
Hel. And you fhall finde your felfe to be well thank't, 36  
What e're falles more. [*Exit Astringer.*] ¶ We muft to horfe  
again.  
[*To Attendants.*] Go, go, prouide! [*Exeunt.* 38

*Actus Quintus. Scena Secunda.*

*Roffillon. Before the COUNTS Palace.*

*Enter Clowne, and PARROLLES in poore attire.*

Par. Good *Mafter Lauatch*, giue my Lord *Lafew* this letter!  
I haue ere now, fir, beene better knowne to you, when I haue  
held familiaritie with frefter cloathes; but I am now, fir,  
muddied in Fortunes mood, and fmell fomewhat ftrong of her  
ftrong difpleafure. 5

Clo. Truly, Fortunes difpleafure is but fluttifh, if it fmell

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

so strongly as thou speak'st of: I will henceforth eate no  
Fifth of Fortunes butt'ring. Prethee, alow the winde! 8

*Par.* Nay, you neede not to stop your nose, fir; I spake  
but by a Metaphor.

*Clo.* Indeed, fir, if your Metaphor stinke, I will stop my  
nose; or against any mans Metaphor. Prethee, get thee  
further! 13

*Par.* Pray you, fir, deliuer me this paper!

*Clo.* Foh! prethee, stand away! a paper from Fortunes  
close-stoole, to giue to a Nobleman! Looke! heere he comes  
himselfe. 17

*Enter LAFEW.*

*Clo.* [to LAF.] Heere is a purre of Fortunes, fir, or of For-  
tunes Cat, (but not a Muscat,) that ha's falne into the vncleane  
fish-pond of her displeasure, and, as he sayes, is muddied  
withall: Pray you, fir, vie the Carpe as you may; for he [21  
lookes like a poore, decayed, ingenious, foolish, rascally knaue.  
I doe pittie his distresse in my smiles of comfort, and leaue  
him to your Lordship. [Exit.

*Par.* My Lord, I am a man whom Fortune hath cruelly  
scratch'd. 26

*Laf.* And what would you haue me to doe? 'Tis too late  
to paire her nailes now. Wherein haue you played the knaue  
with Fortune, that she should scratch you, who of her selfe is  
a good Lady, and would not haue knaues thriue long [30  
vnder her? There's a Cardecue for you! Let the Iustices  
make you and Fortune, friends; I am for other businesse.

*Par.* I beseech your honour to heare mee one single word!

*Laf.* You begge a single peny more: Come, you shall  
ha't; saue your 'word'! 35

*Par.* My name, my good Lord, is *Parrolles*.

*Laf.* You begge more then *one* word, then. Cox my  
passion! giue me your hand! How does your drumme? 38

*Par.* O my good Lord, you were the first that found mee!

*Laf.* Was I, insooth? And I was the first that lost thee.

*Par.* It lies in you, my Lord, to bring me in some grace,  
for you did bring me out. 42

23. *smiles*] F. similes Theobald (Warburton).

31. *her*] F2.

37. *one*] F3.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Laf.* Out vpon thee, knaue! doest thou put vpon mee at once both the office of God and the diuel? one [44 brings thee in grace, and the other brings thee out. [*Sound Trumpets.*] The King's comming; I know by his Trumpets. Sirrah! inquire further after me; I had talke of you last night: though you are a foole and a knaue, you shall eate; go to! follow!

*Par.* I praise God for you!

[*Exeunt.* 50]

*Actus Quintus. Scena Tertla.*

*Rossillion. The COUNTS Palace.*

*Flourish.* Enter KING, old Lady (Countess), LAFEW, the two French Lords (G. & E.), with Attendants.

*Kin.* We lost a Jewell of her; and our esteeme  
Was made much poorer by it: but your sonne,  
As mad in folly, lack'd the sence to know  
Her estimation home. 1

*Old La. (Countess.)* 'Tis past, my Liege;  
And I beseech your Maiestie to make it 4  
Naturall rebellion, done i'th blaze of youth;  
When oyle and fire, too strong for reasons force,  
Ore-beares it, and burnes on!

*Kin.* My honour'd Lady, 8  
I haue forgiuen and forgotten all;  
Though my reuenges were high bent vpon him,  
And watch'd the time to shoote.

*Laf.* This I must say,  
(But first I begge my pardon,) the yong Lord 12  
Did to his Maiefty, his Mother, and his Ladie,  
Offence of mighty note; but to himselfe  
The greatest wrong of all. He lost a wife,  
Whose beauty did astonish the suruey 16  
Of richest eies; whose words, all eares tooke captiue;

---

44. office] office F.

6. blaze] Warburton.

49. to] too F.

blade F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Whose deere perfection, hearts that scorn'd to serue,  
Humbly call'd Mistris!

*Kin.* Praising what is lost,  
Makes the remembrance deere. Well, call him hither! 20  
We are reconcil'd; and the first view shall kill  
All repetition: Let him not aske our pardon;  
The nature of his great offence is dead,  
And, deeper then obliuion, we do burie 24  
Th'incenting reliques of it. [*To a Gentleman.*] Let him  
approach,  
A stranger, no offender; and informe him,  
So 'tis our will he should!

*Gent.* I shall, my Liege. [*Exit.* 27

*Kin.* [*to LAF.*] What sayes he to your daughter? Haue  
you spoke?

*Laf.* All that he is, hath reference to your Highnes.

*Kin.* Then shall we haue a match. I haue letters sent me,  
That sets him high in fame.

*Enter Count BERTRAM.*

*Laf.* He lookes well on't.

*Kin.* [*to BER.*] I am not a day of season, 32  
For thou maist see a sun-shine and a haile  
In me at once: But, to the brightest beames,  
Distracted clouds giue way; so stand thou forth;  
The time is faire againe.

*Ber.* My high repented blames, 36  
Deere Soueraigne, pardon to me!

*Kin.* All is whole;  
Not one word more of the consum'd time.  
Let's take the instant by the forward top;  
For we are old, and on our quick't decrees, 40  
Th'inaudible and noiselesse foot of Time,  
Steales, ere we can effect them. You remember  
The daughter of this Lord? [*Pointing to LAFEW.*

*Ber.* Admiringly, my Liege, at first 44  
I sticke my choice vpon her, ere my heart  
Durst make too bold a herauld of my tongue  
Where (the impresson of mine eye enfixing)  
Contempt his scornfull Pêrspectiue did lend me, 48

V. iii. 18-48.]



v. iii.] *All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Which warpt the line of euerie other fauour ;  
 Scorn'd a faire colour, or exprest it stolne ;<sup>1</sup>  
 Extended or contracted all proportions  
 To a most hideous object : Thence it came, 52  
 That the whom all men prais'd, and whom my selfe,  
 Since I haue lost, haue lou'd, was in mine eye  
 The dust that did offend it.

*Kin.*

Well excus'd !

That thou didst loue her, strikes some scores away 56  
 From the great compt : but loue, that comes too late,  
 (Like a remorsefull pardon slowly carried,)  
 To the great sencer, turnes a fowre offence,  
 Crying, 'that's good that's gone !' Our rash faults 60  
 Make triuall price of serious things we haue,  
 Not knowing them, vntill we know their graue : 62  
 Oft our displeasures, to our selues vniust,  
 Destroy our friends, and after weepe their dust : 64  
 Our owne loue waking, cries to see what's done,  
 While shamefull hate sleepest out the afternoone. 66  
 Be this sweet *Helens* knell, and now forget her ;  
 Send forth your amorous token for faire *Maudlin* :  
 The maine consents are had ; and heere wee'll stay  
 To see our widdowers second marriage day. 70 [blesse !

*Countess.* Which, better then the first, O deere heauen,  
 Or, ere they meete, in me, O Nature, cesse ! 72

*Laf.* Come on, my sonne ! in whom my houses name  
 Must be digested ; giue a fauour from you,  
 To sparkle in the spirits of my daughter,  
 That she may quickly come ! [*BER. glues LAF. HELS Ring.*] 76

By my old beard,  
 And eu'rie haire that's on't, *Helen*, that's dead,  
 Was a sweet creature ! such a ring as this,  
 The last that ere I tooke her leaue at Court,  
 I saw vpon her finger.

*Ber.*

Hers it was not !

80

*King.* Now, pray you, let me see it ! For mine eye,  
 While I was speaking, oft was fasten'd to't.

<sup>1</sup> *express it stolne* : said that it | tinued to King in F.  
 was due to painting. 82. *to't* too't F.

71. *Countess.*] Theobald. Con-

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

This Ring was mine; and, when I gaue it *Hellen*,  
I bad her, (if her fortunes euer stode  
Necessitied to helpe,) that by this token  
I would releuee her. Had you that craft, to reauue her  
Of what should stead her most? 84

*Ber.* My gracious Soueraigne,  
How ere it pleases you to take it so,  
The ring was neuer hers. 88

*Old La.* Sonne, on my life!  
I haue seene her weare it; and she reckon'd it  
At her liues rate.

*Laf.* I am sure I saw her weare it!  
*Ber.* You are deceiu'd, my Lord; she neuer saw it: 92  
In *Florence* was it from a casement throwne mee,  
Wrap'd in a paper, which contain'd the name  
Of her that threw it: Noble she was, and thought  
I stood ingag'd: <sup>1</sup> but when I had subscrib'd 96  
To mine owne fortune, and inform'd her fully,  
I could not answer in that course of Honour  
As she had made the ouerture, she ceast  
In heauie satisfaction, and would neuer 100  
Receiue the Ring againe.

*Kin.* *Plutus* himselfe,  
That knowes the tinct and multiplying med'cine,  
Hath not in Natures mysterie more science,  
Then I haue in this Ring: 'Twas mine, 'twas *Helens*, 104  
Who euer gaue it you. Then, if you know  
That you are well acquainted with your selfe,  
Confesse 'twas hers, and by what rough enforcement  
You got it from her: She call'd the Saints to suretie, 108  
That she would neuer put it from her finger,  
Vnlesse she gaue it to your selfe in bed,  
(Where you haue neuer come,) or sent it vs  
Vpon her great disafter.

*Ber.* She neuer saw it. 112  
*Kin.* Thou speak'st it falsely, as I loue mine Honor!  
And mak'st coniecturall feares to come into me,

---

<sup>1</sup> *ingag'd* = unengaged (*in* = not).  
101. *Plutus*] Rowe (ed. 2). | 114. *coniecturall*] F2. connec-  
Platus F. | turall F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

Which I would faine shut out. If it should proue  
That thou art so inhumane, . . . 'twill not proue so;— 116  
And yet I know not: thou didst hate her deadly,  
And she is dead; which nothing, but to close  
Her eyes my selfe, could win me to beleue,  
More then to see this Ring. ¶ Take him away! 120

[Guards seize BERTRAM.]

(My fore-past proofes, how ere the matter fall,  
Shall ~~taxe~~ my feares of little vanitie,  
Hauing vainly fear'd too little.) Away with him!  
Wee'l sift this matter further.

*Ber.* If you shall proue 124  
This Ring was euer hers, you shall as easie  
Proue that I husbanded her bed in *Florence*,  
Where yet she neuer was! [Exit, guarded.]

*Enter a Gentleman (the gentle Astringer), with HEL'S Letter.*

*King.* I am wrapt in dismall thinkings.

*Gen.* Gracious Soueraigne, 128

Whether I haue beene to blame or no, I know not:  
Here's a petition from a *Florentine*,  
Who hath for foure or fūe remoues come short,  
To tender it her selfe. I vnderooke it, 132  
Vanquish'd thereto by the faire grace and speech  
Of the poore suppliant, who by this, I know,  
Is heere attending: her businesse lookes in her  
With an importing visage; and she told me, 136  
In a sweet verball breefe, it did concerne  
Your Highnesse with her selfe.

*A Letter (read by the KING).*

'Vpon his many protestations to marrie mee when his wife  
was dead, I blush to say it, he wonne me. Now is the [140  
Count Rossillion a Widdower; his vowes are forfeited to  
mee, and my honors payed to him. Hee stole from Florence,  
taking no leaue, and I follow him to his Countrey for Iustice:  
Grant it me, O King! in you it best lies; otherwise a [144  
seducer flourishes, and a poore Maid is vndone!]

DIANA CAPILET.'

116. *thou*] rhou F.

122. *taxe*] F2. taze F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Laf.* I will buy me a sonne in Law in a faire, and toulle  
for this: Ile none of him! 148

*Kin.* The heauens haue thought well on thee, *Lafew*,  
To bring forth this discou'rie! ¶ Seeke these sutors!  
¶ Go speedily, and bring againe the Count!

[*Exeunt Astringer, and some Attendants.*]

[*To Countess.*] I am a-feard the life of *Hellen* (*Ladie*)  
Was fowly fnatcht.

*Old La.* Now, iustice on the doers! 153

*Re-enter BERTRAM, guarded.*

*King.* [*to BER.*] I wonder, fir, sith wiues are monsters to  
you,  
And that you flye them as you sweare them Lordship,  
Yet you desire to marry. ¶ What woman's that?

*Re-enter Astringer, with Widdow and DIANA. (Later,  
PARROLLES.)*

*Dia.* I am, my Lord, a wretched *Florentine*, 157  
Deriu'd from the ancient *Capilet*:

My suite, as I do vnderstand, you know,  
And therefore know how farre I may be pittied.

*Wid.* I am her Mother, fir, whose age and honour 161  
Both suffer vnder this complaint we bring,  
And both shall cease, without your remedie.

*King.* Come hether, Count! do you know these Women?

*Ber.* My Lord, I neither can nor will denie, 165  
But that I know them: do they charge me further?

*Dia.* Why do you looke so strange vpon your wife?

*Ber.* She's none of mine, my Lord!

*Dia.* If you shall marrie,  
You giue away this hand, and that is mine; 169  
You giue away heauens vowes, and those are mine;  
You giue away my selfe, which is knowne mine;  
For I by vow am so embodied yours,

153. *Re-enter . . .*] Enter Ber-  
tram. F (after l. 151).

154. *sith*] Dyce. sir F.

V. iii. 147-172.]

156. *Re-enter . . .*] Enter Widdow,  
Diana, and Parrolles. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

That she which marries you, must marrie me, 173  
Either both or none!

*Laf.* [to **BERTRAM.**] Your reputation comes too short for  
my daughter; you are no husband for her!

*Ber.* My Lord, this is a fond and desp'rate creature, 177  
Whom sometime I haue laugh'd with: Let your highnes  
Lay a more noble thought vpon mine honour,  
Then for to thinke that I would sinke it heere!

*Kin.* Sir, for my thoughts, you haue them il to friend, 181  
Till your deeds gaine them: fairer proue your honor,  
Then in my thought it lies!

*Dian.* Good my Lord,  
Aske him vpon his oath, if hee do's thinke  
He had not my virginity? 185

*Kin.* What saist thou to her?

*Ber.* She's impudent, my Lord,  
And was a common gamester to the Campe.

*Dia.* He do's me wrong, my Lord; If I were so,  
He might haue bought me at a common price: 189  
Do not beleeeue him! O, behold this Ring,

[*Shews BERTS Ring.*

Whose high respect, and rich validitie,  
Did lacke a Paralell; yet, for all that,  
He gaue it to a Commoner a'th Campe, 193  
If I be one!

*Coun.* He blushes, and 'tis hit! <sup>1</sup>  
Of sixe preceding Ancestors, that Iemme,  
(Confer'd by testament to'th sequent issue,)  
Hath it beene owed and worne. This is his wife; 197  
That Ring's a thousand proofes!

*King.* Me thought you saide,  
You saw one heere in Court could witnesse it?

*Dia.* I did, my Lord, but loath am to produce  
So bad an instrument: his name's *Parrolles.* 201

*Laf.* I saw the man to day, if 'man' he bee!

*Kin.* Finde him, and bring him hether! [*Exit an Attendant.*

*Rof.* What of him?  
He's quoted for a most perfidious flaue,

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<sup>1</sup> The point, the white (his lie), is hit. 204. *perfidious*] perfidious F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

With all the spots a'th world, taxt and deboſh'd; 205  
 Whose nature ſickens but to ſpeake a truth!  
 Am I or that, or this, for what he'l vtter,  
 That will ſpeake any thing?

*Kin.* She hath that Ring of yours!

*Rof.* I thinke ſhe has; certaine it is I lyk'd her, 209  
 And boarded her i'th wanton way of youth:  
 She knew her diſtance, and did angle for mee,  
 Madding my eagerneſſe with her reſtraint;  
 (As all impediments in fancies courſe 213  
 Are motiues of more fancie;) and, in fine,  
 Her inſuite<sup>1</sup> comming with her moderne grace,  
 Subdu'd me to her rate: ſhe got the Ring;  
 And I had that which any inferiour might 217  
 At Market price haue bought.

*Dia.* I muſt be patient!  
 You, that haue turn'd off a firſt ſo noble wife,  
 May iuſtly dyet me. I pray you yet,  
 (Since you lacke vertue, I will looſe a husband,) 221  
 Send for your Ring, I will returne it home,  
 And giue me mine againe!

*Rof.* I haue it not!

*Kin.* What Ring was yours, I pray you?

*Dian.* Sir, much like 225  
 The ſame vpon your finger.

*Kin.* Know you this Ring? This Ring was his of late.

[Shows HELENAS Ring.]

*Dia.* And this was it I gaue him, being a bed.

*Kin.* The ſtory then goes falſe, you threw it him  
 Out of a Caſement.

*Dia.* I haue ſpoke the truth. 229

*Rof.* My Lord, I do confeſſe the ring was hers.

*Kin.* You boggle ſhrewdly, euery feather ſtarts you.

*Re-enter Attendant, with PAROLLES.*

¶ Is this the man you ſpeake of?

<sup>1</sup> *insuite* = *ensuit*, following on (eagerly), importunity. '*Ensuyure* [pp. *ensuit*]. To follow, pursue, runne or chase after.' — Cotgrave.

*infinite* cunning S. Walker.  
 231. *Re-enter* . . .] Enter Parolles.  
 F (after l. 229).

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Dia.* I, my Lord.

*Kin.* [to *PAR.*] Tell me, firrah! (but tell me true, I charge you, 233

Not fearing the displeasure of your master,

Which, on your iust proceeding, Ile keepe off.)

By<sup>1</sup> him, and by this woman heere, what know you? 236

*Par.* So please your Maiefty, my master hath bin an honourable Gentleman. Trickes hee hath had in him, which Gentlemen haue. 239

*Kin.* Come, come! to th'purpose! Did hee loue this woman?

*Par.* Faith, fir, he did loue her: but how?

*Kin.* 'How,' I pray you? 243

*Par.* He did loue her, fir, as a Gentleman loues a Woman.

*Kin.* How is that?

*Par.* He lou'd her, fir, and lou'd her not.

*Kin.* As thou art a knaue, and no knaue. ¶ What an equiuocall Companion is this! 248

*Par.* I am a poore man, and at your Maiefties command.

*Laf.* Hee's a good drumme, my Lord, but a naughtie Orator.

*Dian.* Do you know he promist me marriage? 252

*Par.* Faith, I know more then Ile speake.

*Kin.* But wilt thou not speake all thou know'ft?

*Par.* Yes, so please your Maiefty. I did goe betweene them, as I said; but more then that, he loued her: for, [256 indeede, he was madde for her, and talkt of *Sathan*, and of *Limbo*, and of *Furies*, and I know not what: yet I was in that credit with them at that time, that I knewe of their going to bed; and of other motions, as promising her marriage, [260 and things which would deriue mee ill will to speake of; therefore I will not speake what I know.

*Kin.* Thou hast spoken all alreadie, vnlesse thou canst say they are maried: but thou art too fine in thy euidence; therefore stand aside! 265

¶ This Ring, you say, was yours?

*Dia.* I, my good Lord.

*Kin.* Where did you buy it? Or who gaue it you?

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<sup>1</sup> By = of.

244. *Gentleman*] Rowe. Gent. F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

*Dia.* It was not giuen me, nor I did not buy it.  
*Kin.* Who lent it you?  
*Dia.* It was not lent me neither. 269  
*Kin.* Where did you finde it, then?  
*Dia.* I found it not.  
*Kin.* If it were yours by none of all these wayes,  
How could you giue it him?  
*Dia.* I neuer gaue it him. 272  
*Laf.* This woman's an easie gloue, my Lord; she goes off  
and on at pleasure.  
*Kin.* This Ring was mine; I gaue it his first wife.  
*Dia.* It might be yours or hers, for ought I know. 276  
*Kin.* Take her away; I do not like her now;  
To prison with her! and away with him!  
¶ Vnlesse thou telst me where thou hadst this Ring,  
Thou diest within this houre.  
*Dia.* Ile neuer tell you. 280  
*Kin.* Take her away!  
*Dia.* Ile put in baile, my liedge.  
*Kin.* I thinke thee now some common Customer.  
*Dia.* [to **LAFEW**] By *Ioue*! if euer I knew man, 'twas you!  
*King.* Wherefore hast thou accusde him al this while?  
*Dia.* Because he's guiltie, and he is not guilty: 285  
He knowes I am no Maid, and hee'l sweare to't;  
Ile sweare I am a Maid, and he knowes not.  
Great King, I am no strumpet, by my life,  
I am either Maid, or else this old mans wife! 289  
[Pointing to **LAFEW**.]  
*Kin.* She does abuse our eares: To prison with her!  
*Dia.* [to **Wid.**] Good mother, fetch my bayle! [Exit  
**Widdow.**] ¶ Stay, Royall sir!  
The Jeweller that owes<sup>1</sup> the Ring is sent for,  
And he shall surety me. But for this Lord, 293  
(Who hath abus'd me, as he knowes himselfe,  
Though yet he neuer harm'd me,) heere I quit him:  
He knowes himselfe, my bed he hath defil'd;  
And at that time he got his wife with childe: 297  
Dead though she be, she feesles her yong one kicke:

286. *to's* too F.

<sup>1</sup> *owes* == owns.



*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

So there's my riddle: One that's dead is quicke : 299  
And now behold the meaning !

*Re-enter Widdow, with HELLEN.*

*Kin.* Is there no exorcist  
Beguiles the truer Office of mine eyes ?  
Is't reall that I see ?

*Hel.* No, my good Lord ;  
'Tis but the shadow of a wife you see, 303  
The name, and not the thing.

*Rof.* Both, both ! O pardon !  
*Hel.* Oh my good Lord, when I was like this Maid,  
I found you wondrous kinde ! There is your Ring ;  
And, looke you, heeres your letter : this it sayes : 307  
[*Reads*] ' *When from my finger you can get this Ring,*  
*And are by me with childe, &c.*<sup>1</sup> This is done :  
Will you be mine, now you are doubly wonne ? 310

*Rof.* If the, my Liege, can make me know this clearly,  
He loue her dearly, euer, euer dearly ! 312

*Hel.* If it appeare not plaine, and proue vntrue,  
Deadly diuorce step betweene me and you ! 314  
¶ O my deere mother ! do I see you liuing ?

*Laf.* Mine eyes smell Onions ; I shall weepe anon :  
[*To PARBOLLES*] Good *Tom Drumme*, lend me a handkercher !  
So, 318

I thanke thee : waite on me home, He make sport with thee :  
Let thy curtises alone, they are scuruy ones.

*King.* Let vs from point to point this storie know,  
To make the euen truth in pleasure flow. 322

[*To DIANA*] If thou bee'st yet a fresh vncropp'd flower,  
Chooſe thou thy husband, and He pay thy dower ; 324

For I can guesſe, that, by thy honest ayde,  
Thou kept'st a wife her ſelfe, thy ſelfe a Maide. 326

¶ Of that and all the progresſe, more and leſſe,  
Refolduedly more leaſure ſhall expreſſe : 328

300. *Re-enter . . .* Enter Hellen and Widdow. F.

<sup>1</sup> ' *When thou canst get the Ring vpon my finger,* (which neuer shall

come off,) and shew me a *childe* begotten of thy bodie, that I am father to,' &c. — III. ii. 56-58, p. 45.  
309. *are*] Rowe. is F.

*All's Well, that Ends Well.*

All yet seemes well; and, if it end so meete,  
The bitter past, more welcome is the sweet! [*Flourish.* 330

*EPILOGUE spoken by the KING.*

**T**He King's a Begger, now the Play is done!  
All is well ended, if this suite be wonne, 332  
That you expresse Content; which we will pay,  
With strife to please you, day exceeding day: 334  
Ours be your patience, then, and yours our parts;  
Your gentle hands lend vs, and take our hearts! 336  
[*Exeunt omn.*]

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334. *strife*] strift F.

FINIS.

## NOTES.

- p. 7, I. i. 69. *Ber. to Hel.* B. Nicholson conj. Rowe and subsequent editors made *Ber.* address the whole speech—including ll. 68, 69, 'The best . . . to you'—to *Hel.*
- p. 11, I. i. 208. *like likes* = as likes.
- p. 11, I. ii. 3, 15. 1 *Lo. G.*, 2 *Lo. E.* The patronymic of these two French lords is *Dumain*. See IV. iii. 162, p. 68, and l. 259, p. 70. Rowe and all subsequent editors have distinguished them as 'First Lord' and 'Second Lord.' Capell first suggested that *G.* and *E.* are their actors' initials. The names of Samuel Gilburne, Robert Goughe, and William Ecclestone are found in the list of 'Principall Actors' prefixed to *Fr.* *French E.* and *French G.*, the 'two Gentlemen' who appear at III. ii. 43, p. 45, although they have the same prefixes as the 'two Frenchmen' who enter in III. i., and are called 'souldiers' (III. ii. 33, p. 44), seem to be diplomatic agents of the French court (III. ii. 52-54, p. 45); whose parts were assigned to the same actors who presented *Lords G.* and *E.* *French E.*, one of the 'two Gentlemen'—not 'Lords'—is well acquainted with the true disposition of *Parolles* (III. ii. 87-89, p. 46), from whom *Lords G.* and *E.* parted with great apparent cordiality in II. i. 37, 38, 45, p. 22. Moreover, we can hardly suppose *French G.* and *E.*—who, when Act III. sc. i. closes, are to join the Florentine army 'to-morrow'—to be the *French E.* and *G.* who enter in the next scene, and on the same day (*Day 5*), on their way to Paris (III. ii. 52-54, p. 45).
- p. 12, I. ii. 44, 45. *Making them proud, &c.* The meaning may be: (1) Making them proud of his humilitie, he [being] humbled (or humbling himself) in their poore praise (their awkward attempts to respond to his condescension); or, (2) making them proud of his humilitie [whom] he humbled in their poore praise (in his poor praise of them; praise which they felt unworthy of).
- p. 21, II. i. 13-15. *Those bated, &c.* Thus explained by Singer: 'The king excepts to the unworthy Italians, who inherit not the true "ancient Roman honour," but the degenerate spirit of the decline and fall, and are *unfit umpires of worth and valour.*'
- p. 26, II. i. 165. *her.* Donne has feminine pronouns with *Hesperus*. 'As *Hesperus she* [*Venus*] presents you with *her* bonum utile, because it is wholesomest in the morning'; &c. ix. Why is *Venus*-star multinominous, called both *Hesperus* and *Vesper.*—*Juvenilia*, 2nd ed. (1633), p. 42.
- p. 35, II. iii. 195. *I write Man.* From the following quotations it

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- would seem that a youthful male adult was said to 'write man.' . . . 'for albeit I did *worite man*, yet I was but a young Lad to speak of,' &c.—Mabbe's *Guzman de Alfarache*, 1623, Pt. I. bk. ii. chap. 6, p. 146. The orig. is: . . . 'que aunque varon, era muchacho,' &c. 'But when I once began to *write Man*,' &c.—*ibid.*, bk. iii. chap. 9, p. 245. 'Quando me vi mancebo' &c. See III. v. 63, p. 51, for a similar phrase.
- p. 55, III. vi. 91. *case* = flay. . . . 'then doth he [a Virginian native executioner] proceed with shels and reeds to *case* the skinnie from his [the malefactor's] head and face.'—Capt. J. Smith's *Map of Virginia*, 1612, p. 37.
- p. 59, IV. i. 40, 41. *Bajazeths Mule*. Shakspeare may have met with a story of a mule of Bajazeth I. or II. having been once gifted with speech, as was Balaam's ass, and Achilles's horse Xanthos.
- p. 59, IV. i. 62, 63. *cargo*. Perhaps this word is not mere 'linsie wolsy,' like the rest. G. Markham, enumerating the names of the trumpet-signals, says: 'The, fift is, *Carga, Carga*,—or—An Alarum; Charge! Charge! Which sounded, every man (like Lightning) flies vpon his enemy, and giues prooffe of his valour.'—*The Souldiers Accidence*, 1625, p. 61.
- p. 61, IV. ii. 25. *Ioues*. The Act referred to above is entitled: 'An Acte to restrain Abuses of Players.' The latter part of chap. 21 runs thus: 'That if at any tyme or tymes, after the end of the present Session of Parliament, any person or persons doe or shall in any Stage play interlude Shewe Maygame or Pageant jestingly or prophanely speake or use the holy Name of God or of Christ Jesus, or of the Holy Ghost or of the Trinitie, which are not to be spoken but with feare and reverence, [he] shall forfeite for everie such Offence by hym or them committed Tenne Pounds, the one moytie thereof to the Kings Majestie his Heires and Successors the other moytie thereof to hym or them that will sue for the same in any Courte of Recorde at Westminster, wherein no essoigne, Proteccion or Wager of Lawe shalbe allowed.'
- p. 62, IV. ii. 38, 39. *ropes in such a scarre*, &c. Mr. John Davies (*Notes & Queries*, 5th S., viii. 182; x. 145) conjectured that *ropes* is the plural of the O.E. *rōp*, an outcry; *scarre* = scare; and *forsake* = refuse. "Bertram," he explained, "has been protesting vehemently to Diana, and she replies, 'I see that men make loud protestations in the fear that we'll refuse (to give) ourselves.' She adds, therefore, because she wished to have something more substantial, 'Give me that ring.'" *Rōp*, lament, outcry, is a rare and early word,—the latest known instance of its use occurs in Layamon's *Brut* (? 1205 A.D.), l. 12540,—though it survives with a restricted sense in the form *roup*; e. g. sale by public *roup*. *Scarre*, a frequent spelling of *scare*, is found in *Rom. & Jul.*, V. iii. 262, F. text. *Forsake*, refuse, is common. See, for an example, II. iii. 54, p. 31, in this play. The word *scarre* occurs in *Lingua*, Act I. sc. vi. (see Lettsom's note apud W. S. Walker's *Text of Shakspeare*, iii. 75), where a character named Tactus, after exchanging

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ing his usual dress and garland for a robe and crown, makes a boastful speech, one line of which runs thus: 'Poets will write whole volumes of this *scarre*.' The Rev. W. A. Harrison points out that the editions of 1607, 1610, 1617, 1622, and 1632 read *scarre*, but that the edition of 1657 has *change*, apparently because the former word had become obsolete. Assuming, then, that *scarre* = exchange, barter, Diana means that in an exchange or barter of empty promises against chastity, men anticipate that women will forsake themselves. If this be the true interpretation of *scarre*, the *ropes* may be fond utterances and loving protests; though a much clearer sense would be obtained by reading, with Rowe, *hopes for ropes*.

[*I see that men make rope's in such a scarre*, &c. I don't agree with the Note above on this passage. The Folio *rope's* should have been kept in the text; and as 's = us, I think *ropes* is a verb, and the phrase an instance of a regular Early English use of *make*, as in *make brenne*,<sup>1</sup> cause to be burnt, *make brynge*,<sup>2</sup> cause to be brought, like the French *il fait bâtir une maison*, he causes a house to be built, he has a house built. The *Brut* says that Henry IV 'made burye' the body of Richard II. Shakspeare's words therefore mean, 'I see that men cause us to be roped in such a *scarre*,—rocky or gravelly place—that we'll forsake ourselves, give up our chastity.' Our modern phrase is, 'get us into such a tight place, or corner'.—F. J. Furnivall, 5 June, 1908.]

p. 74, IV. v. 16. *not hearbes*. not *pot* hearbes B. Nicholson conj.

p. 74, IV. v. 19. *grace*. The Clown is punning on the similar pronunciation of *grace* and *grass*; which is shown by the frequent occurrence of the latter spelling. Cp. e. g.: 'Thersandro . . . began to take heart at *grasse*, and within few daies began to recouer his former health.'—Greene's *Carde of Fancie*, 1587, Huth Lib., vol. iv. pp. 151, 152.

p. 84, V. iii. 147, 148. *I will buy me a sonne in Law in a faire*, &c. Lafew probably means that he will be careful to obtain a guarantee of ownership with his next son-in-law; alluding to the stat. 31 Eliz. cap. 12, which regulated the sale of horses. By this statute a penalty of 40 shillings was imposed 'vnlesse the Toltaker, . . . will take vppon him perfect knowledge of the same person [the vendor], his name, surname, & place of dwelling, or resiancie, and shall enter the same into a book kept for Horses sold: or vnles the said person do bring to such Toltaker, book-keeper, &c. one sufficient and credible person, that can & wil testifie that he knoweth the seller, giuer, or putter away, his name, surname, myserie, and dwelling place: and there enter into such booke, aswel the same, as the name, surname, myserie, and place of

<sup>1</sup> 1502. *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de Worde, 1506), Our Lorde, that . . . this present worlde shall *make brenne* by fyre.—*N. E. D.*

<sup>2</sup> The good lady *ma'le bryng* linnen and other clothes.—Caxton's *Four Sonnes of Aymon*, E. E. T. Soc. i. 129/7.